

Porthcawl's historic toilets are set to reopen - full story on page 3.

Pupils send the crowds home happy with a rousing Oliver! - see pages 6 & 7.

Porthcawl 'persuades' Lewis to tackle a marathon charity swimming challenge

Left to right: Colin Hughes, Tom Chapman, Lewis Brown, Ros Edmonds, Peter Shanley.



PORTHCAWL resident Lewis Brown has just completed a gruelling (and very cold) swimming challenge - taking to the water for 100 consecutive days - with no wetsuit, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

He has been so determined to never miss a day that, even when he and wife Jade went to London, he swam once in the Serpentine in Hyde Park, and once in a London Dock.

According to The GEM's beekeeping correspondent, Harold Williams, this has been a warm winter, as far

as his bees are concerned, but thanks to the regular cold winds blowing in off the Bristol Channel, Lewis would beg to differ. In Porthcawl, wind chill factor means just that!

Over the 100 days, he has taken to the water at Porthcawl harbour (when the tide was in) and at Rest Bay when the tide was out.

However, he drew inspiration from the experienced open water swimmers that he met in Porthcawl, and he told The GEM that their help and encouragement had been crucial.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

TAKEAWAY

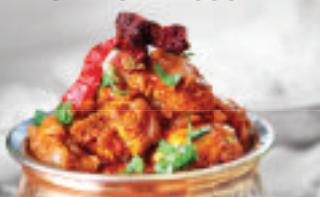
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Filmakers - when you think you can't, you Cannes!

A COUPLE from Bridgend have produced a comedy film for the Cannes Film Festival.

Chris Burke and Andrea Thompson didn't want to listen to the news headlines anymore. They were tired of Brexit debates, online trolling and feeling freaked out at how young doctors looked. In short, they had hit middle age. But they weren't going down without a fight - so they made a film!

Andrea said: "We still have something to say, but as with many business sectors, the film industry doesn't put much value in people beyond a certain age. It's as if you become invisible - especially women. It's hard for a female writer/director to be taken seriously if she's middle aged."

With a self-funded, micro budget, the pair wrote, directed and edited *Soul Mates*, a 30-minute comedy about finding love in the strangest of places.

After a casting call generated replies from more than 140 hopefuls, the pair whittled it down to five versatile and talented artists. *Soul*

Mates was filmed during five days in November, using a beautiful woodland location at Ballas Farm, Stormy Down.

Chris believes that good comedy can still highlight serious issues. Two themes explored in the story are that living your life through social media can be lonely and ex-soldiers can suffer extreme stress responses to everyday problems.

Chris said: "We didn't want to make light of situations faced by many ex-soldiers, but we thought there would certainly be comic potential when the protagonist faces a combat-ready and highly stressed individual while on a blind date in an isolated woodland."

The story is about Alison who, realising that she has only one 'non-virtual' friend and zero chances of finding a mate, agrees to go on a blind date. What she doesn't realise is that the date involves wilderness camping and eating squirrels. It's laugh-out-loud funny and if you're seeking crazy escapism, then *Soul Mates* can certainly give you that!

Consultation on changes to electoral wards - see page 8.



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Dance academy's Strictly charity evening

OVER the last 15 weeks, 16 students from The Dance Centre Academy in Bridgend have been participating in a Strictly Come Dancing-themed show school course.

The aim of the course was to teach the students new ballroom dances, and it concluded with a charity ball at Aberafon Beach Hotel.

At the black tie event, students performed a number of routines for the guests as they enjoyed a three course meal. All proceeds raised from the event were donated to Y Bwthyn Newydd at The Princess Of Wales Hospital.

Hospital director Jamie Marchant accepted the cheque for £1,060.50 on behalf of Y Bwthyn. The money will be used to help the unit and also will go towards the gardening club at the Academy.

Adam Watkin



hospital, which helps to planning their next char- provide the patients and ity event. They are also families at the palliative and looking forward to care unit with a recrea- their stage show tional and peaceful area performance at the Grand while at the facility. Pavilion Porthcawl in The dancers at the March.

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Ten-year animal ban for Llanharan man

A LLANHARAN man has been banned from keeping animals for 10 years after he neglected seven chickens and two turkeys.

David Sanders (69) of Bethlehem View, Llanharan, Pontyclun, appeared at Cardiff Magistrates Court on January 22 and pleaded guilty to five offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The offences took place at Pendre Allotments, Llanharan, where he caused unnecessary suffering to seven chickens and turkeys for failing to

address the causes of their poor condition and weight loss, by failing to get proper and necessary veterinary care and attention for two chickens' sour crop and by failing to get proper and necessary veterinary care for the two turkeys' leg infections.

He also failed to give all the birds a suitable environment and failed to meet their need for a suitable diet, including access to fresh drinking water.

At the court hearing, Sanders was sentenced to 250 hours unpaid work, and was disqualified from keeping all animals for 10 years.

Society plans for 2019

TABERNACL Music Society is due to perform a number of concerts during 2019 and is now preparing for its first concert of the year which will take place on Friday, April 5 when a joint concert is planned with Llantrisant Male Voice Choir.

We are sure that this will be a varied and interesting concert, to take place at Tabernacl Church Bridgend at 7pm.

A second concert, at the same venue will take place on Sunday, June 23. At this summer concert we will sing the much-loved Mozart's Requiem, an edition with some added choruses, together with soloists and orchestra.

The choir has previous links through town twinning with a

choir in Villenave D'Ornon near Bordeaux. From September 15 - 18 we will meet our friends in France when we take part in their week long celebrations in Villenave.

We will round up the year with a Christmas concert early in December, the details of which are still at the planning stage. As well as our concerts we are socially active. Dinners and light entertainment are planned for this year and we will also launch our 'Friends of Tabernacl' scheme at the spring concert.

Are you interested in joining our choir? You would be most welcome to join us at our rehearsals on a Tuesday evening in Tabernacl Church, Bridgend at 7pm.



Housing planned on site of old school

PLANS for 135 homes on the site of the old Bryn Castell School in Bridgend have been submitted.

The Persimmon Homes development comprises a mix of one, three and four-bedroom homes in Llangwydd Road.

Ysgol Bryn Castell was closed as part of the school modernisation

programme in 2014 and has since been demolished.

The site's first development phase has seen 67 homes built with the second phase now involving 135 homes.

Vehicular access will be gained from the south and west of the site via Llangwydd Road.

The application number is P/18/1006/FUL.

Bridgend Quiz League results

THE results for February 1 are:

1. Before 1946, how did the film industry simulate snow?

2. What was Charles Dickens' first completed novel?

3. In which country is the seaport of Odessa?

SK

1. They painted Corn Flakes white.

2. Pickwick Papers. 3. Ukraine.

ANSWERS:

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL FEBRUARY 7)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
31 Thur	02.57	8.0	15.31	8.1
01 Fri	04.07	8.2	16.35	8.4
02 Sat	04.59	8.8	17.25	8.8
03 Sun	05.46	8.9	18.05	9.1
04 Mon	06.23	9.2	18.42	9.3
05 Tues	06.58	9.4	19.08	9.4
06 Wed	07.33	9.6	19.48	9.5
07 Thur	07.59	9.5	20.19	9.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.



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Working parents to receive help with childcare costs

THE Welsh Government's new Childcare Offer scheme, which provides financial support towards childcare for working parents, is being introduced locally after being piloted elsewhere in Wales.

here later this year.

Cllr Patel described as "very generous" the Foundation Phase Nursery provision, which entitles children to either a part-time or full-time nursery place in school after they turn three years old.

"Parents participating in the scheme in other counties have reported that it has given them more flexibility with their work-based decisions as well as more disposable income. Many parents spend a lot of time worrying about childcare issues so hopefully this new scheme will help to make life a bit easier and reduce that stress."

Cllr Tom Giffard, leader of the Conservative Group on Bridgend County Borough Council, said: "I'm pleased that the Welsh Government has finally agreed to provide 30-hours free childcare to help eligible working parents."

Any formal childcare provider that parents use has to be registered with the Care Inspectorate Wales.

Labour councillor Dhanisha Patel, Bridgend County Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Future Generations, said: "This new scheme has been very well received in other parts of Wales so we're looking forward to it being introduced

Porthcawl's historic toilets set to reopen

THE historic John Street toilets in Porthcawl will reopen in mid-February and temporary public toilets are being made available until then, the town council has said.

Porthcawl Town Council has worked with local companies to provide the temporary toilets after the John Street facilities were closed at the start of the New Year and said that the John Street toilets should reopen on February 18.

Town councillor Mike Clarke, who is also a Bridgend county councillor, said: "They will be open the same hours as before. There has been a lot of feedback in the town, particularly among traders, who say a huge number of people have been saying they don't think they'll come back any more due to the closure of the John Street toilets.

"We felt there was a need to get something in place in the short-term. It wasn't straight-forward for the council to be able to handle it directly, so Cllr Brian Jones and myself contacted some local businesses to see what could be done.

"All Loo Hire in Bridgend will provide the temporary loos at the back of John Street car park near Harris Printers.

"What we are trying to do is demonstrate to traders that we value them in our town centre and we really

want to do all we can to support a vibrant town centre."

The temporary toilets, which include disabled facilities, will be maintained by a team of volunteer town councillors.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) closed the John Street toilets – along with those in Porthcawl's Griffin Park, Chepside in Bridgend and at Maesteg Bus Station – on January 1, saying it could no longer afford to keep them open.

In October, thousands of people signed a petition against the plans and in the days after their closure, local residents and traders reported seeing hundreds of people trying to use the toilets, raising concerns over the impact on young families, the disabled and the elderly.

Cllr Clarke said the town council was currently awaiting a condition survey on the John St toilets from BCBC. He said: "Contractors will run the John Street toilets when we reopen them in February and Porthcawl Town Council will foot the bill."

Over the coming months, Porthcawl Town Council will look into managing the costs of running the Grade Two listed building on a long-term basis.

Liz Bradfield, local democracy reporter.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lewis and his wife Jade grew up in Devon, and Lewis was a lifeguard at a local pool in his teens. However, his real enthusiasm was for the sea, and he went on to study oceanography in university.

Jade gained a place at Cardiff Medical School so, after he gained his degree, the couple lived in Cardiff. While Jade continued her medical training, Lewis started work for the National Maritime Aquarium as an outreach officer for south Wales. A fair chunk of his work is visiting schools and talking about the marine environment. In recent years, this has meant talking a lot about plastic!

By now, Lewis was getting more and more keen on open water swimming – particularly in the sea. That was difficult from Cardiff, as it meant driving to Barry, so Porthcawl beckoned.

What's more, Lewis' work with the National Maritime Aquarium led to a tie-in with Seaseast, which is the educational arm of the Porthcawl harbour side development. He has occasional

use of Seaseast's office in Porthcawl and, presumably, will develop these links further when the Porthcawl Maritime Centre is completed, as Seaseast will be part of that centre.

On arriving in Porthcawl, Lewis made contact with the established group of sea swimmers and took his first dip (clad in a wetsuit) in February 2018.

He said: "It was so cold it absolutely took my breath away, and I couldn't believe that the Porthcawl people were doing it in just a regular swimming costume. Regulars like Tom Chapman and Ros Edmonds gave me so much encouragement."

A period of acclimatisation followed and, as the summer rolled on, he discarded his wetsuit and determined that, anything they could do, he could do too.

The regulars have a club called 'Swimtastic' and keep in touch by mobile phone, checking who wants to swim when and where. Over the summer, they showed Lewis how to plan longer swims safely, going, for instance, from Rest Bay



to Ogmore. classes.

Lewis and Jade Brown before the parkrun on Saturday.

The swimmers tend Back in his pool life- to liaise with the NCI guard days, Lewis gave Coastwatch volunteers swimming lessons and who are based in the tower near Porthcawl harbour and who keep a watchful eye on the swimmers.

As the summer wore on, Lewis decided to do the 100-day challenge, in aid of a charity that

is already supported by the National Open Water Swimming Association. The charity, 'Level Water' helps disabled children learn to swim, and then aims to move them on to continue lessons with mainstream

which was depleted by strong winds and heavy rain, but for Lewis that was the easy part.

The tide was in so he and four others, Colin Hughes, Tom Chapman, Ros Edmonds and Peter Shanley, made their way down the slipway and headed out into the bay. Lewis added that Porthcawl has many tricky currents, but staying in the centre of the bay close to the harbour is pretty straightforward. Nevertheless, anyone contemplating trying sea swimming should take advice from the many knowledgeable swimmers in Porthcawl.

Lewis wrote a blog throughout the challenge and in that he said: "The ocean is my playground and through loving it, I have learnt more about it and care about ensuring the health of it in the future.

"Through this challenge I want people to engage with the ocean, take on their own ocean adventure and learn to love it, so that in the future they care about protecting it. Whether you have disabilities or not, all should be able to enjoy the water!"



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BCBC is 'finally to tackle the blight' of empty properties

THE public is being invited to comment on a new strategy aimed at bringing empty properties back into use across Bridgend County Borough.

There are around 1,200 private sector homes in the area which have been lying empty for at least six months, and more than 40 per cent of them have been empty for over two years.

The majority of empty properties can be found around the town centres in Bridgend, Porthcawl and Maesteg, but the places with the highest percentage of empty properties are the Ogmore and Garw valleys.

While not all empty properties are in a state of disrepair, many are, which can give a poor impression of an area and deter investment. Some empty properties also attract anti-social behaviour such as graffiti, arson and fly tipping.

The council proposes to tackle the problem by working proactively with property owners to make them more aware of empty home grants and empty property loans that may be



The Garw valley.

available to them. Where properties continue to remain empty for a long period of time and have deteriorated to a state of disrepair, the council will consider using its legislative powers such as enforced sales, empty dwelling management orders and compulsory purchase orders.

The council will also explore its options for increasing the council tax premium on properties that are empty for two years or longer.

Cllr Dhanisha Patel, BCBC's Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Future Generations, said: "We are committed to tackling the blight

The strategy suggests prioritising empty properties on key criteria such as nuisance value, detriment, location and housing demand and not just how long a property has been empty.

In response, Cllr Tom Giffard, Conservative Group Leader on Bridgend County Borough Council said: "We back proposals that will add another tool that will tackle empty houses that are in a state of disrepair because they can be a blight on communities and often be a magnet for anti-social behaviour. "However, we have called for this for some time and wonder why the council have not done this sooner."

"The council also proposed council tax premiums for properties that had been vacated for six months or longer. While we are not generally opposed to this, we want to make sure that people selling homes on behalf of friends or relatives via probate aren't penalised, as this process often takes much longer than six months and so we would therefore be targeting the wrong people if these were some of the people penalised."

"It will be essential for all information we hold about empty properties to be up to date and we're proposing to develop a confidential online system so that people can report empty properties and any related issues."

A BRIDGEND councillor has applauded the UK Government's new moves to support victims of domestic abuse - and pursue offenders.

The ground breaking draft Domestic Abuse Bill also sets out the first ever statutory definition of the crime to include economic abuse, and the impact of non-physical abuse.

Cllr Carolyn Webster (Conservative), who represents the Newcastle ward, said: "This is certainly a positive step forward. Domestic abuse - physical and mental - wrecks lives. It can have a devastating effect on children and we must do all we can to make sure support is in place for victims, and that those responsible for this despicable crime are brought to justice."

She added: "I am delighted to see the recognition of non-physical abuse. Manipulative and

controlling behaviour is totally unacceptable, it is toxic and undermines self-confidence in victims who are already struggling to cope."

Cllr Webster has worked locally with Bridgend County Borough Council and the domestic abuse advice and information service, Calan DVS.

Recently she has been pushing for changes to the layout of the services' Assia Suite, to make the setting less formal.

She explained: "The Assia Suite was named after a local woman, Assia Newton, who was murdered by her estranged husband after years of abuse. It is a constant reminder of what can happen, and that domestic abuse is not something that happens somewhere else."

Domestic abuse is reported to affect 6 per cent of all adults, and cost Wales and England £66 billion between 2016/17.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid

added: "Domestic abuse shatters lives and tears families apart. It can happen anywhere, to anyone. Protecting victims, as well as supporting survivors, is at the heart of our strengthened response to this horrific crime."

The new measures include £8m of Home Office funding to support children affected by domestic abuse as well as supporting services by bolstering protection for victims and helping to expose and bring abusers to justice.

Under new rules, abusers would be barred from cross-examining victims in family courts, courts would be given greater powers and a Domestic Abuse Commissioner would be appointed to drive the response to domestic abuse issues.

Cllr Webster is holding a surgery for Newcastle Ward residents on Saturday, February 2 at Halo Life Centre (Bridgend Rec) from 10am to 12pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

AS

Local councillor applauds new measures in stamping out domestic abuse

ON January 10, 40 members of Sker WI welcomed two visitors to the first meeting of the new year.

Part of this meeting was taken up with choosing this year's resolution to be put forward to the National Federation. Once the business side of the meeting was over, members were really pleased to meet

Ideas sought for use of church hall

THE St David's Church Hall Development Committee, Laleston, are applying to the 'People and Places' National Lottery Fund for a grant to alter and refurbish the church hall on the High Street.

Thoughts, opinions and suggestions are being sought about the hall's future use after the refurbishment to include in the application.

If you are able to contribute to the consultation, go along to the church hall on the main road in Laleston on February 18 between 7.30pm and 9pm to meet members of the project group.

If you are unable to come on that evening and can contribute ideas or need further information, contact the group through Facebook or email carolynbrown@gmail.com.

WI steps back in time

ON January 10, the first speaker of the year, Ceri Joseph from Porthcawl Museum, the current location of Ceri's topic was 'The Porthcawl Story' and she soon had everyone enthralled on a journey back through time, without the aid of a time machine.

From as far back as the age of dinosaurs and Stone Age man, Ceri stripped back the modern facade of Porthcawl as it is today. She introduced ancestors including Porthcawl had strong links with the military and had encampments on Rest Bay with soldiers from other nations billeted here on more than one occasion.

Ceri explained that Porthcawl had strong links with the military and had encampments on Rest Bay with soldiers from other nations billeted here on more than one occasion. For those members who are relative newcomers to the lovely seaside town, Ceri's talk was enlightening about seafarers who visited the busy harbour and made everyone realise that there is far more to Porthcawl than buckets and spades and

The group learned about seafarers who visited the busy harbour and made everyone realise that there is far more to Porthcawl than buckets and spades and

Cynthia Sidey won the monthly competition, second was Margaret Owen and third, Christine Beynon.

Sker WI meets at 7pm at St David's church hall, Nottage village on the second Thursday of the month; come along and say hello. Visit SkerWI@NottageVillage. CB

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'Plenty of issues to get stuck into' says MP

IN the midst of Brexit dominating the news, it is good to take stock and focus on other pressing and important issues, three in particular have struck a chord with me this week.

I recently chaired a debate in Westminster Hall on the Widowed Parent's Allowance, being chair I had the chance to sit back and listen to the points and arguments being made. Although well intentioned, the allowance only makes provision for families who lose a parent to receive an entitlement if the parents are married or in a civil partnership. The law does not allow for the increasingly common situation of long term relationships where people choose not to get married.

The potential result of this is that if a family finds itself bereaved they will be unable to claim the benefits they would be entitled to. This could easily push some families into poverty and home loss when trying to reconstruct their lives after a devastating loss.

This is the effect of a policy designed in the 1940s, with honourable intentions, failing to keep up with today's social attitudes.

It is a particular potential issue in Wales, as we are the part of the UK where couples are mostly likely to opt



WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK
Bridgend MP
MADELEINE MOON
writes an exclusive
report from
Westminster for The
GEM

not to get married. This debate weighed on my mind on the way to the station where the taxi driver told me that despite being with his partner for a number of years and having two children, they had decided not to get married, but to save to buy a house instead. Marriage had become an economic choice to them.

They wanted to save to buy a house to give themselves security. Then they would look to get married. This is a financial choice many Welsh couples are making which could leave a partner and their children in a potentially ruinous situation.

The second issue that struck me is cervical cancer screening. It was Cervical Cancer Screening Week, so I was shocked to learn that the number of people going for smear tests is declining. One in four women are not attending their appointment. The number not attending rises in older age groups.

However, nine women are diagnosed with cervical cancer every day and screening can prevent 75 per cent of

cervical cancers from developing. Screening is not something any woman looks forward to, but it does save lives.

Finally an update on my Bill to give those diagnosed with terminal illnesses a fast track access to benefits. At present people have to complete a lengthy application form online for Universal Credit and face interviews with a work coach. Patients have to ask for the benefit. Doctors have to state that death is likely to occur within six months to access the terminal illness benefits.

This is an almost impossible task. Many doctors believe the benefit is only for those with cancer. Polling found that 31 per cent of GPs have never signed a DS1500 terminal illness form for a non-cancer patient, whereas 93 per cent have signed a DS1500 for a cancer patient.

I had another meeting with the Minister this week to discuss the Bill. So far we have achieved promises of changes to wordings and improved guidance for GPs but no move on removing the six month rule.

£60k for rail feasibility study in Pencoed

AND of £60,000 from the Welsh Government's Local Transport Fund to Bridgend County Borough Council to carry out a feasibility study for the Penyrys road rail bridge (also known as Grants Bridge) in Pencoed has been made.

This has followed a campaign by local elected representatives in the area over several years.

Pencoed has a level crossing in the centre of town, which can be closed for as much as 40 minutes of every hour, and a narrow single-lane bridge with traffic-lights over the railway in town.

This award, it is hoped, from Welsh Government will see work commence to examine the feasibility of enhancing the capacity of the bridge to take more traffic, and allowing the level crossing to be closed for good.

Labour MP Chris Elmore said: "We hope that this encouraging news from Welsh Government will lay the groundwork for UK Government

Ministers to play their part too, because there is no doubt that UK funding for rail infrastructure needs to be put into the upgrading of the rail bridge and the closure of the level crossing. They need to be ready to help too."

Conservative AM Suzy Davies said: "Many residents have already voiced concerns that borough residents don't seem to be getting much from the South Wales Metro plans, so I wonder whether this work could help redress the balance.

"I've also made representations about the bridge and crossing following the loss of infrastructure modernisation which electrification could have brought.

"I hope then, should this very welcome work give a clear steer on the way ahead, that the UK Government will be supportive, be it through the City Deal or otherwise."

CI

Local restaurant scoops two top Welsh awards



Isabella's Restaurant staff have landed two awards in the last year.

Council plans a new strategy to tackle problem of homelessness

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) has recruited a mental health outreach worker to work with residents who are homeless or facing homelessness and need specialist support.

The number of people coming to the local authority for help either because they were homeless or about to become homeless hit 1,020 during 2017/18.

According to a report which went before councillors at a cabinet meeting on January 22, the biggest reason for homelessness, at 19 per cent, is the loss of rented or tied accommodation – where housing is provided by your employer.

The second reason, at 13 per cent, is because a parent is no longer able or willing to accommodate their child.

The local authority's draft homelessness strategy which is about to go out to public consultation aims to help prevent homelessness by improving collaboration between external organisations and how people access services.

As part of the strategy, BCBC is developing a new system where people will be able to make and manage their applications online via a customer portal – officers say it will help reduce the need for people to repeat their story.

A Housing First project is also taking place in the town which provides rough sleepers with accommodation and then 'wraps' services around them with support from multiple agencies.

Meanwhile, a mental health outreach worker recently recruited by BCBC is involved with the development of pilot mental health and substance misuse outreach support services which are expected to be fully operational by February.

In preparation for the winter, BCBC joined up with a number of charities to expand and increase services for the homeless. It involves an afternoon service in and around Bridgend town centre to allow people to

access a safe, dry, warm and friendly environment to escape poor weather.

Speaking at a full cabinet meeting on council meeting the Tuesday council leader Huw David said: "This member for wellbeing Dhanisha Patel said the strategy was co-produced with landlords, registered social landlords, the homeless and the third sector.

"It's a damning indictment on wider society that it's still an issue.

"The worst statistic I read is that the second biggest reason for homelessness is that parents are no longer able or willing to accommodate their 16-18 year olds.

"I'm pleased we have a family mediation service in place and we are

going to strengthen collaboration between social services and housing."

Speaking at a full cabinet meeting on council meeting the following day cabinet member for wellbeing Dhanisha Patel said the strategy was co-produced with landlords, registered social landlords, the homeless and the third sector.

"It also aims to ensure that there is sufficient accommodation available for individuals and families in need.

"There are often complex reasons for why people become or remain homeless. One of the objectives of this strategy is to ensure that the solutions are easily accessible, readily available and designed around the needs of the people who use them."

Liz Bradfield, Local democracy reporter

ISABELLA'S Restaurant, Porthcawl has won two awards in the last year.

In April, Food Award Wales presented it with the 'Best World Cuisine' title, and just before Christmas the Restaurant Award Wales recognised it as one of the 'Top 20 Restaurants in Wales'.

Geraint Jones of Isabella's said: "With over 300 restaurants being nominated at the awards, we were very surprised and excited to have won both awards. Successfully maintaining a level 5 hygiene rating and a high ranking on TripAdvisor were contributors to winning the awards."

"Our contributions to local charities such as The Food Bank, and the local football team Porthcawl FC were also noted."

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JP Jones brings exhibition for One Night Only!



A gifted artist, singer and songwriter John Paul Jones (JP) is holding an exhibition – entitled One Night Only – for, surprise surprise, one night only today, Thursday, January 31 at Pop Up Cowbridge, 23b High Street.

JP as he likes to be known is originally from Porthcawl, but splits his time between Sydney and Cowbridge as he is engaged to his love of nearly 20 years, Australian fashion designer Camilla.

Exhibiting for the first time in his homeland, devout Welshman JP has had two sell out exhibitions in Sydney in the last six months and a super successful show at London's Hospital Club in Summer of 2018.

I wasn't quite too sure of what to expect from a 'rockstar/artist'

For someone whose 'interaction' with musicians is limited to buying a once-struggling David Gray a few drinks in a Cheltenham bar, or serving alongside one Captain James Hillier Blount in Kosovo, JP's 'black book' of names is quite something.

In his 20's JP was signed to Virgin EMI with a band he formed



in London. JP was the main songwriter and frontman of Grace. He more recently collaborated with rock chick Chrissie Hyde of the Pretenders and they formed JP Chrissie and the Fairground Boys and toured the States.

Mentored and inspired by the late Toby Smith of Jamiroquai, JP went on to write with Paloma Faith, Nell Bryden, The Hoosiers and even jammed on stage with Guns N' Roses. JP's songs have been endorsed by Gary Barlow of Take That and he also co-wrote Cher's hit Sirens.

Meeting at "Pop Up Cowbridge" 23b High Street on a gloriously bright and chilly day, we decided not to drive a Rolls-Royce into a swimming pool, but chatted over a cup of tea about what brought him to put on this exhibition.

JP, an old boy of the now-defunct St John's School in Newton, which Eddie Izzard also attended, studied Fine Art at Chelsea Art School before venturing into Music. JP was 'talked' into doing a last minute showcase by his sister Natalie at her Pop Up Shop here in Cowbridge.

JP's degree at Chelsea saw the birth of his "Portraits of Sound" concept... "My affinity for contemporary art evolved from an unwavering curiosity to create a visual language from the invisible patterns of sound."

He devised a means of allowing deaf people to experience the sound of music visually through his own medium of lasers and vibrating mirrors.

His music and art have worked together often on taking the leading role over the other...

JP's collection is so much more than just a painting... Each one is a song.

Lines from Bowie's Heroes are on one canvas, and lyrics from You Got The Love on another, and so on. The imagery of the laser light is painted on, a portrait of the musician, singer, or band overlaid on the canvas.

Although a frozen image, the eye leads the mind to see movement, to see the sound.

Affable and, for one so talented, modest, JP demonstrates a quiet passion for sound and vision.

But don't take my word for it; pop along to One Night Only to see and hear for yourself.

Removal of tolls a boost for economy says MP

LAST month's removal of the tolls on the two River Severn bridges will provide a major boost for the south Wales economy, said MP Alun Cairns.

The Welsh Secretary and Vale MP said in the Commons that removal of the tolls will drive the biggest economic stimulus Wales has seen in decades.

He said it would put over £1,400 a year into the pockets of hard-working motorists and boost the south Wales economy by £100 million.

Mr Cairns also welcomed efforts being made to encourage closer working between south Wales and the south-west of England, giving them the chance to attract more investment.

Report by Michael Prosser

Sad death of Windsor Davies brought back childhood memories for Porthcawl man

THE sad death earlier this month of Windsor Davies – most famous for *It Ain't Half Hot Mum*, but very fondly remembered in Wales for the BBC Wales comedy, *Grand Slam* – brought back memories for one Porthcawl man.

David Richards grew up next door to Windsor, his parents and sister in Nantymoel. Windsor was seven years older than David, and this was the period when Nantymoel was 100 per cent a mining town, with three mines operating: the Ocean Weston, the Wyndham and the Penllyn Gwent (known locally as the Drift).

It was a friendship that, despite their lives taking very different paths, would be renewed at regular intervals in London. Both attended Ogmore Grammar School and Windsor did work in the mines for a while, but then went to north Wales to teacher training college. There

was an interruption for National Service but then he returned to teaching in London. He was 29 when his wife encouraged him to take a drama course, and he then became a full-time actor. David, now a retired Chief Superintendent with the Metropolitan Police, recalled: "I followed him to London when I joined the Metropolitan Police and we would meet up over the years as he continued his acting career.

"Windsor lived in number 4 Graig Fryn, Nantymoel, and I, together with my parents, lived in number 3. They were terraced houses and as such we lived our lives very close to each other with small gardens at the front of the house and at the back was a shed for the coal and another small shed for the WC.

"Windsor always had a sense of humour and on one occasion locked his father in the glasshouse in their garden during a very hot day. While Windsor's father pleaded to be let out,

Windsor was laughing outside. He had been filming all night.

David continued: "When we met up again in London, I recall he talked about his National Service. On one occasion, his unit were posted overseas, so they were driven to the troopship and, on arrival, there were several more lorry journeys before reaching their camp.

"When he got there, he discovered he had lost his rifle. He said that he had received a ferocious telling off from the Sgt Major, and I suspect he drew on that experience when he played Battery Sergeant Major Tudor Bryn Williams.

"Again in London, Windsor came along to see my grandmother on one occasion. Windsor lived with his family in Kentish Town and for a time I lived in Tuffnel Park, hence we bumped into each other on regular occasions. As a Sergeant at West End Central, I recall meeting Windsor in the West End in the early hours of the morning when he explained that

"The last time we met was in Hyde Park with an event involving St John Ambulance. A very loud sports car was being driven around Hyde Park and in the passenger seat was Windsor. He was as usual smiling and laughing and obviously enjoying the occasion. We exchanged a few words and he then continued his journey.

"His parents, I believe, came originally from north Wales and then moved to London. His mother had a favourite story about the war. They were being bombed and she was very anxious to get to the air raid shelter. She called to Windsor's father to hurry up and he replied that he could not find his false teeth. She replied: 'It's bombs their dropping, not sandwiches.' His parents had a good sense of humour, which Windsor inherited."

'Please sir, can we have some more'



Here are some more photos (by Dan Minto Photography) of Porthcawl Comprehensive School's Oliver! (For a review, see facing page). Left is Meg Morris (Nancy) singing 'As Long As He Needs Me'. Far left is Jack Williams, as Fagin, pictured in rehearsal (minus beard) and also in full costume.



Local residents asked for their opinions on education services

ESTYN has launched a survey to ask residents in Bridgend for their views on how well education services provided by the council support schools and youth services.

The survey asks parents, carers, learners and anyone working or involved in education to help inspectors judge how effective the education services are at ensuring young people receive the education they are entitled to.

Meilyr Rowlands, chief inspector, said: "Local views from those involved with schools and youth services are

vital to help give a picture of how well the council is performing.

Inspectors will be considering how well the education services help pupils to achieve, support those who are vulnerable or have particular needs, and provide youth support services for those aged 11-25."

The survey is part of the new inspection framework for local government education services in Wales. Results from the survey will be used to inform the inspection of Bridgend which begins in March.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us
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Talented students send the Grand Pavilion crowds home happy with a rousing *Oliver!*

THIS year, Portcawl Comprehensive School chose Lionel Bart's much-loved musical, *Oliver!*, performing the show to packed houses over four days in the Grand Pavilion, and the audience went home happy after enjoying a polished, energetic and vibrant evening.

The show is packed with crowd pleasing numbers, many of them happy sing-a-longs such as 'Consider Yourself', 'Food Glorious Food' and 'It's a Fine Life' which do a good job of disguising the dark side of Dickens' tragic plotline.

The performance was well-served by its main characters, and the title role is a good place to start, with Matthew Neeson hitting the right tone as Oliver Twist – just the right mix of angelic innocent and spirited rebel.

Dylan Bridge was a good foil to Oliver, Will Foskett was a

introducing him to the criminal world as the Artful Dodger, and he made the most of songs such as 'I'd do Anything'.

Once the Dodger appears, it's just a short step to Fagin, the career crook and Nancy, the tart with a heart, and you simply don't do *Oliver!* without strong performers in these roles.

No cause for concern of course, Jack Williams offered us a traditional Ron Moody-style Fagin, and he was totally in control throughout. He certainly squeezed every possible laugh out of his big number 'Reviewing The Situation'.

Meg Morris played Christine in last year's *Phantom of the Opera*, so we already knew she had a strong voice, and she gave us a lot more than that, taking centre stage with songs such as 'Oom pah pah'. Nancy is very much the leader of her community, and Meg does a fine job as she dealt with the awful dilemma of how to protect Oliver from the arch villain, her boyfriend, Bill Sykes.

Will Foskett was a dark and threatening Bill. Dickens' own description of Bill said that he has a "deep growly voice" and Will definitely took this direction to heart. I suspect he will be soothng his vocal cords by gargling honey and lemon for a month.

Returning to Meg, she really excelled with Nancy's big song, 'As Long As He Needs Me'. It's a difficult number, as it's certainly not a sweet love song. Really, it's the song of a deluded woman trying to convince herself – in spite of the evidence – that her man does care for her. There's a defiance in the words, and Meg certainly brought all that out, really going for

a big finish that earned a rousing ovation. One other number well worth mentioning – because it is a change of tempo after the ensemble numbers – is 'Who Will Buy', sung by Oliver and the street sellers. The interplay between Matthew Neeson's high voice and the girls on stage was terrific. There were strong performances throughout the cast, and the success of the show was really down to a strong ensemble. Included in these were Patrick O'Neil (Mr Bumble); Elys Davies (Widow Corney); Keiran Dyer (Mr Sowerberry); Carys Morgan (Mrs Sowerberry); Meg Molloy (Charlotte); Evan Davies (Noah Claypole); Eddy Osborn (Bet).

The director, Mrs Kelly Poole, has put together a professional production team who all know what they are doing, and these include

Miss Rhiannon Thomas (musical director and choreographer); Mrs Rhiannon Giles (assistant musical director) and Mr

Joe Smith (production manager).

The school students,

and the appreciative

audience last week in

the Grand Pavilion, owe them all a massive round

of applause.

Review by Philip

Irwin/Photographs by

Dan Minto Photography..



Matthew Neeson (Oliver) and Dylan Bridge (Artful Dodger).



Patrick O'Neil (Mr Bumble) with Elys Davies (Widow Corney).
All photographs by Dan Minto Photography.



Will Foskett (Bill Sykes) threatens Meg Morris (Nancy).



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Consultation on changes to BCBC electoral wards

A 12-week consultation period has begun on proposals to overhaul the electoral wards of Bridgend county.

The Boundary Commission, which is conducting a review of the electoral arrangements, is proposing a cut in the number of electoral wards from 39 to 32 and an overall reduction in councillors from 54 to 52.

The plans involve increasing the number of councillors for some wards where there are more residents and decreasing those where there are less.

The proposed changes result in a county average of 2,055 electors per councillor.

They include 10 two-member electoral wards: Brackla East and Coyauch Lower, Caerau, Cefn Glas, Maesteg East, Maesteg West, Newcastle Higher, Oldcastle, Pencoed West, Porthcawl East Central, and Sarn and Ynysawdre.

Five three-member electoral wards are also included: Bridgend Central, Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr, Coity Higher, Cornelly and Pyle, Kenfig Hill and Cefn Cribwr.

Under the plans nine wards would remain the same: Blackmill (one councillor), Maesteg West (two councillors), Bryncoch (one councillor), Nant-y-moel (one councillor), Felindre (one councillor), Ogmore Vale (one councillor), Llangynwyd (one councillor), Oldcastle (two councillors) and Maesteg East (two councillors).

The changes are set out below. Caerau – A decrease in councillors from three to two.

Blaengarw, Llangeinor and Pontycymmer – Merge the northern part of Pontycymmer ward with the ward of Blaengarw to form a new electoral ward called Upper Garw – to be represented by one councillor.

Merge the southern part of Pontycymmer ward with the ward of Llangeinor to form a new electoral ward called Lower Garw – to

be represented by one councillor.

Bettws – Merge Llangynwyd Lower with the Bettws ward of the Garw Valley to form a new electoral ward called Bettws – to be represented by one councillor.

Aberkenfig and Pen-y-Fai

Merge the Aberkenfig and Pen-y-Fai wards of Newcastle Higher in a two-councillor electoral ward called Newcastle Higher.

Sarn and Ynysawdre

Merge the electoral wards of Sarn and Ynysawdre – which includes Tondu and Brynmynnyd to form one ward represented by two councillors. This would be called Sarn and Ynysawdre.

Bryncethin

Merge the Bryncethin ward of St Bride's Minor with Coyauch Higher to form a ward called Bryncethin which would be represented by one councillor.

Hendre and Penprys

Merge the Hendre and Penprys wards of Pencoed to form an electoral ward called Pencoed

West which is represented by two councillors.

Coity, Litchard and Pendre

Merge the whole of Coity Higher to form one electoral ward called Coity Higher which would be represented by three councillors.

Brackla and Coyauch Lower

Create four new wards by splitting the existing electoral ward of Brackla into four single member wards.

These would be Brackla West, Brackla West Central, Brackla East Central, and Brackla East and Coyauch Lower.

Morfa, Newcastle and Oldcastle

Merge the Morfa and Newcastle wards to form an electoral ward called Bridgend Central – represented by three councillors.

Cefn Glas and Llangeinor

Merge the Cefn Glas and Llangeinor – Merge the Cefn Glas One and Cefn Glas Two

wards of Laleston to form a ward called Cefn Glas – represented by two councillors.

Bryntirion, Laleston and

Merthyr Mawr – Retain the existing ward – and increase the number of councillors from two to three.

Cefn Cribwr and Pyle – Merge Cefn Cribwr and Pyle to form a new electoral ward called Pyle, Kenfig Hill and Cefn Cribwr – represented by three councillors.

Cornelly – Retain the existing boundaries and increase the number of councillors from two to three.

Porthcawl – Move part of the Nottage ward (Anglesey Way) into the Rest Bay ward.

Move part of Windsor Road from Rest Bay ward into Porthcawl West Central.

Move the majority of the town centre from Porthcawl West Central to Porthcawl East Central. Move part of the Newton ward which includes Trecco Bay and part of New Road into Porthcawl East Central. Porthcawl East Central would then be represented by two councillors rather than one.

Town and Community Councils
Brackla Community Council – there would be 12 councillors rather than 11 with three councillors coming from the four new wards: Brackla West, Brackla West Central, Brackla East and Brackla East Central

Garw Valley Community Council: There would continue to be 13 councillors but only from the three wards of Bettws, Blaengarw and Llangeinor.

Porthcawl Town Council: There would continue to be 19 councillors but the numbers in each ward would change slightly. Newton, Nottage, Rest Bay and West Central would have three councillors while East Central would have seven.

The consultation period ends on April 15.

The commission will then prepare final proposals and submit them to Welsh Government.

For more details go to ldbc.gov.wales

Liz Bradfield
Local Democracy reporter

Young actors move on from Oliver! to Chorus Line

PORTHCAWL Comprehensive School's production of *Oliver!* closed on Saturday (January 26) and the cast are basking in high praise after the series of shows in the Grand Pavilion.

The GEM's review of *Oliver!* (with pictures) can be found on page 7 of this week's edition.

However, for a number of the young actors, it was straight back to work, as they started rehearsals for The Bridgend Youth Theatre's next show Chorus Line (Grand Pavilion, March 1 and March 2).

Chorus Line is not often performed by schools, because so many of the cast need to be able to sing, dance and act. With over 20 performers having solo spots at one time in the show, it puts a stretch on resources, but BYT director Roger Burnell clearly thinks that he has a group capable of doing this great show justice.

Within 24 hours of the final performance of *Oliver!* cast members were busy learning the music and choreography for a show that celebrates all the performers who make up a musical, putting their hopes and dreams on stage, together with their personal struggles.

Seated front in the picture are two of the stars of *Oliver!* It's not difficult to recognise Meg Morris, who played Nancy, but Jack Williams, alongside her, looks a little different, minus his Fagin beard!



In the back row (left to right) are: Patrick O'Neill (Mr Bumble); Olivia Baglow; Kara Morgan-Rees; Orla Danahar; Eddy Osborne (who played Bet); and Carys Morgan (Mrs Sowerberry). (NOTE: Lucia Brown, another *Oliver!* cast member moving on to Chorus Line, was unavailable when the photo was taken).

Philip Irwin



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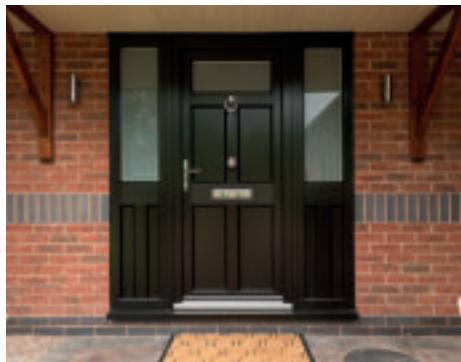
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An update on the progress of Jade Owen, who can now walk

FOR GEM readers who have been following the quest for Jade Owen's Wish to Walk, supporter Gordon Trigg reports the latest news:

Jade had her Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) operation in July in St Louis. In the six months following she has made good progress.

She has intensive physiotherapy twice per week and spends a lot of time every day doing exercises. She is so determined that she is a model for us all.

She can now stand and walk a bit on her own.

Her one difficulty is that balance is sometimes difficult, so she has to be near something to hold on to or have someone to steady her.

After over 12 years of not walking, this is incredible progress.

Jade has started learning to play pool – an impossible task when she was in a wheelchair but now she can lean on the table for balance. The Master Mariner in Barry. We respectfully add that Jade's progress in walking is better than her progress on the pool table.

It is expected that within the next six months, Jade will be walking unassisted.

As usual I am delighted to report on some generous supporters. Leanne Price and Gary White have very kindly arranged for a new bed for Jade.

This is the 'all singing and all dancing' remote controlled bed which enables Jade to lie down or sit down comfortably in a position which takes into account the current deformity in her legs.

It also helps her get up in the morning.

Jade and the family can only say a huge thank you for such generosity.

In spite of the good news, the fundraising continues to enable Jade to have her physiotherapy and the dozens of other expenses that are involved.

Jade's friends Lynnmarie Mayberry and her family are

organising an event in Barry which will include a disco, by the kindness of Samantha and Alex Stevesons. This Valentine disco will be at 7.30pm (until late) on Friday, February 15 in

Further information is available from Jade via Facebook. There will be prizes for best dancer or best dressed. Reported by Gordon Trigg, Bridgend.

As I always report, the fundraising must continue to support Jade in the final laps of her recovery.

It is always possible to help Jade's cause by making a donation at www.gofundme.com/jade-wish-to-walk and every penny you give goes to help Jade's Wish to Walk – nothing is taken for administration, which is all voluntary.

Don't be put off by the ability of some to donate large amounts of money – these are few and far between.

The majority of the fundraising is from that small special gift which is given with a truly generous heart.

Be positive and be part of Jade's dream.

Reported by Gordon Trigg, Bridgend.



Jade with Dr Park in St Louis after her SDR operation.

Farming Matters with Rachel Saunders

LAST week, the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) enjoyed a very successful Farmhouse Breakfast week, with many kitchens across Wales getting involved in the FUW's annual campaign. I must thank everyone who helped make it such a roaring success once again.

We also held our Cardiff breakfast at the Pierhead Building again, which is now in its 20th year. It provided us with a great opportunity to remind Assembly Members that it is time

to stand up for Welsh agriculture, Welsh jobs and the Welsh economy as the country prepares to exit the European Union.

It really is high time that we, as a nation, start to properly respect, admire and celebrate the family farms which have worked our land for thousands of years, and who are the backbone of our rural economies and culture.

Standing up for Welsh agriculture means recognising and taking action regarding the threats the industry faces. At this time, there is no greater threat than that of crashing out of the EU in just under ten week's time.

We reiterated

our calls for Brexit contingency planning to be stepped up and called on the Welsh Government to work alongside other UK Governments to ensure action can be taken at short notice to protect our farmers and food producers from the sort of catastrophe we have only previously witnessed during Foot and Mouth disease outbreaks.

Of course, the Welsh Government has no control over the Brexit process, but we reminded Assembly Members that there are things in their power to mitigate the impacts of what may happen over the coming weeks.

We reiterated

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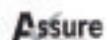
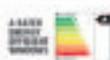
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Local author with 'unprecedented access' to Manic Street Preachers' Richey Edwards' archive publishes book - and you could win a copy

L A N T W I T
Major author Sara Hawys Roberts explores the life of missing Manic Street Preacher, Richey Edwards, in her debut publication, *Withdrawn Traces*, published by Penguin Random House on January 31.

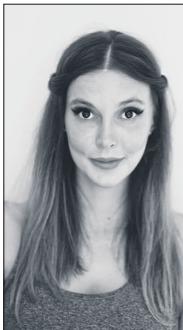
Theories abound as to what became of Edwards following his disappearance at the age of 27, on the eve of a promotional tour to the USA. His car was found abandoned near the Severn Bridge a fortnight after he went missing and nothing has been heard from him

since.

The book examines the life and times and mysterious vanishing of the complex musician and lyricist. It considers the many theories and suggestions as to what became of Richey. Some believe that he took his own life, seeking an escape from his depression and anxieties. At the other end of the scale, there are those who prefer to think that Richey skilfully planned his own disappearance, and wait in hope for him to return.

However, *Withdrawn Traces* reveals a myriad of other possibilities and evaluates their likelihood.

Sara was given unprecedented access to



Sara Hawys Roberts.

the lyricist's vast archive by her friend, Rachel Edwards, Richey's sister. The book contains over 50 personal plates from the collection and features Richey's early school essays, poems, letters and notes from his time in Swansea University, together with photographs of his family, friends and the Manics themselves. "It is a fascinating treasure trove, which gave us a huge insight into this talented and conflicted man's inner psyche. He have been performed

was far more than a rock musician. He was a gifted poet, writer, prolific thinker and intellectual," Sara comments.

Since her brother's disappearance, Rachel Edwards has channelled all her efforts into finding out what happened to him. She and Sara desperately hope that *Withdrawn Traces* might elicit new information which may eventually lead to finding out what became of Richey.

Sara has been a recipient of a Writer's Bursary from Literature Wales on two occasions, most recently for *Armour the Saints*, about Jewish assassin Herschel Grynszpan, the teenager who some claim to have started World War 2. [Grynszpan's assassination of the German diplomat Ernst vom Rath on November 7, 1938 in Paris was used by the Nazis as a pretext to launch Kristallnacht, the anti-Semitic pogrom of November 9-10, 1938]. She has also written several plays which

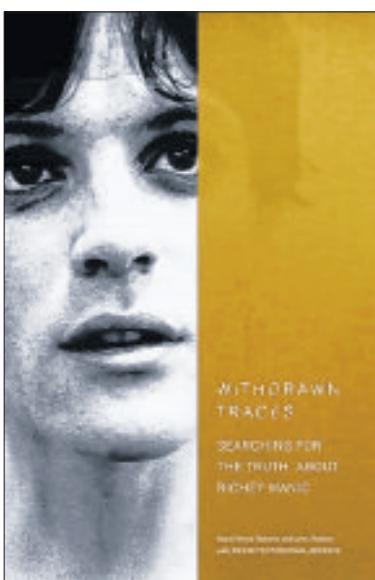
in Cardiff's Sherman Theatre and Chapter Arts Centre. She has a Degree in Professional and Creative Writing from the University of Glamorgan.

sealed-down envelope) to The Glamorgan GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, and received no later than noon on Monday, February 11, 2019.

Please include your full name, postal address, and email address so that you can be contacted if you are the winner.

The winner will be the first entry drawn out of hat after that date, and must visit The GEM's office in Cowbridge to collect the book from the author and to have a photograph taken with her for publication in print and online.

Only one entry per person, the Editorial Team's decision is final, no correspondence will be entered into, and no cash alternative is available.



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Out & About with The GEM

Adam McKay's Vice is a vibrant, compelling and stunning piece of work...

HAVING served as vice-president to George W Bush, Dick Cheney should be one of the most well-known men in history.

However, aside from questionable decisions made while in office, very little is known about the man who was arguably the power behind the throne of the presidency of the United States of America.

In *Vice*, Adam McKay attempts to unravel Cheney's life. Portrayed by Christian Bale, we see Cheney and his wife Lynne (Amy Adams) go from Wyoming to the corridors of power in Washington, along the way meeting figures such as Donald Rumsfeld (Steve Carrell) and George W Bush (Sam Rockwell) who will shape and define the career of Cheney and the impact his decisions had

on society and history... In *The Big Short*, Adam McKay, previously known for comedy films like *Anchorman* and *Step Brothers*, made a film about the financial meltdown of 2006/2007 that tackled serious subject matter but handled it with a loose and light touch that was absolutely superb.

He tries a similar trick with *Vice*, attempting to unravel the life of one of history's most polarising figures, and he succeeds in making a film that doesn't shy away from the seriousness of the subject matter, but presents it without the portentousness that these films tend to come saddled with.

Given the events that took place in Cheney's political career (certainly the most notable being the years spent as George W Bush's second-in-command) and the mystery that surrounds him, he is



SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

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certainly perfect subject matter for a film. But how do you manage to make a film about a man who has made a career, a life even, of living in the shadows, being the power behind the throne?

McKay's response is to make a film that clings to the truth, but tonally plays things with a lighter touch, and it pays great dividends.

Much like *The Big Short*, he gives the film an urgent, yet woozy feel, with some wonderful little tricks and stylistic nods (a fake credit-roll midway through the film is a beautiful touch) that give the film a strong sense of identity.

Having written the script as well, McKay

has a solid handle on the material. He is keenly aware of how to present material like this, and crafts an engaging story that, as an opening title card puts it, they've tried their best to put together when the source material is so scarce.

It would be easy for McKay to paint Cheney as this figure of hate, damning him for his actions, but he takes great pains to paint Cheney as a complex character who is driven by the bigger picture and his belief in what he felt was the greater good, regardless of the collateral damage.

Both Sam Rockwell and Steve Carell are superb as Bush and Rumsfeld respectively, while around them the likes of Jesse Plemons (as a cleverly-used narrator), Tyler Perry and Alison Pill all offer tremendous support.

This is one of those rare films where there are so few missteps along the way.

Instead, *Vice* is a phenomenal piece of work, a dazzling and engaging portrait of a complex man and his place in history.

VERDICT: A truly exceptional piece of filmmaking, *Vice* has energetic direction from Adam McKay, and some breathtaking performances from Christian Bale and Amy Adams among an impeccable cast. Powerful, relevant yet delivered with a wonderfully-judged tone, this is superb filmmaking. Essential viewing.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Wolf of Wall Street* (2014), *W.* (2008).

Lynne. In many ways she is the driving force, turning Cheney from a power-line worker to (arguably) the most powerful man in the world, and is equally capable of being cold-blooded when she has to. Her performance is a wonderful foil for Bale, and the pair share a tremendous connection.

The group will continue to meet every Friday afternoon from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry; all are welcome. For more information, contact Lucy Payne on Lucy@wdeaf.org.uk or call 01443 485687/07958 298822.

A lip reading course will start on Friday, February 22 and will take place fortnightly until Friday, July 12 from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, also at Age Connects Senior Health Shop.

For more information, contact Lucy Payne on Lucy@wdeaf.org.uk or 01443 485687/07958 298822.

Cowbridge Art Society ON Thursday, January 31 there will be a pen and wash demonstration by Bristol artist Paul Weaver.

The following week, there will be a watercolour demonstration by local artist Peter Cronin. CAS welcomes artists of any level, and also non-artists who would like to see demonstrations of various art techniques or attend illustrated lectures.

The group meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge from 7pm-9pm and occasional visitors (small fee) and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities, collect a programme from the Old Hall, or see [www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas](http://facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas) or Instagram/cowbridgeart.society.

Valeways guided walks ON Tuesday, February 5 Crwydro Yn Bellach at Gorsaf Reilffordd, Y Barri at 10am.

On Wednesday, February 6, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Barry meet at the Bridge Cafe car park at Cold Knap, Barry at 10.30am.

The same day at 2.30pm the Coffee

GlastonBARRY Juniors'

is new family tribute show

BARRY'S Mack Events has announced a new family festival called **GlastonBARRY Juniors** which will take place in July.

Promoters Ross Mackintosh and Matt Blumberg are already responsible for the popular GlastonBARRY tribute festival which takes place every year at Romilly Park in the town.

Now they've decided to host a show for all ages of the family to enjoy. Ross told The GEM: "GlastonBARRY Juniors will feature three tributes to popular acts Ed Sheeran, Little Mix and Rihanna with local support and special guests. We want to create a really great family fun event with some of the best

pop tribute acts in the world."

A talent competition for local youngsters aged seven to 11 years old will take place on June 22 at St Cyres School with the prize a slot on the big day.

Ross said: "The winner of the talent competition will receive a prize pack including some tickets to the event and some other goodies, but will also get a chance to open the show, singing on the main stage in our 6,000 capacity big top. It would be a huge opportunity for any aspiring young singer."

GlastonBARRY Juniors takes place on Friday, July 26 at Romilly Park. There is more information at Mack Events Presents on Facebook.



ABOVE:
A Little Mix tribute act will be among the acts performing at GlastonBARRY Juniors.

TC

Your guide to what's on and where in your area

Hearing support

Barry Hard of Hearing & Tinnitus Support Group will hold their first group meeting on Friday, February 8 with a presentation and workshop delivered by Colette Bunker from the British Tinnitus Association.

The group will continue to meet every Friday afternoon from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry; all are welcome. For more information, contact Lucy Payne on Lucy@wdeaf.org.uk or call 01443 485687/07958 298822.

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Shop Strollers of Cowbridge meet at the Physic Garden fountain in Cowbridge.

On Thursday, February 7, the Living With Cancer Strollers meet at 10.30am outside Cosmeston visitor centre.

On Saturday, February 9, meet on the promenade on Barry Island by the RNLI shop (CF62 5TQ) at 10am for a circuit of Barry Island.

Whist drive

EVERY Wednesday at St Athan Old School Hall (behind Lifestyle shop) a whist drive takes place with a prompt start at 7.30pm. Entrance fee (£2) includes tea/coffee and biscuits, optional raffle.

Enfys Craft Fair

ALL crafters old and new welcome you to Enfys Craft Fair on Saturday, February 2 at the St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm with free admission.

There will be crafters creating cushions, place mats, shopping bags, toilet and make-up bags, baby shoes, blankets and toys. There will be jewellery for sale – necklaces, bracelets and earrings. Wood turned bowls, boxes, pens and candle holders; and if you have something in mind which you would like made, Reg is your man.

You can find cakes baked by Louise; mouth-watering chocolate, lemon, Welsh cakes and bara brith – come early as bara brith sells out quickly!

In the kitchen Ann is busy with sizzling bacon and egg baps, corned beef pie and cheese and potato pie, and new items are added to the menu each month.

February's charity is Mittens, which specialises in pregnant cats and their kittens.

For more information about the fair call Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

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Vale of Glamorgan Building Excellence Awards 2018 celebrate success



THE 16th Vale of Glamorgan Council Building Control Group Building Excellence awards were held at the Vale Resort, Hensol on January 18.

The evening was attended by the Mayor, The Leader and Cabinet member for Regeneration and Planning, Cllr Jonathan Bird. The event was also attended by Vale of Glamorgan Council's Building Control Team and the sponsors of the event.

Clr Bird said: "The nominations in every category were of the very highest quality and I congratulate all the winners, who will now have the chance to compete against the winners from 13 other councils in south Wales in the South Wales Building Excellence awards 2019, which will be held at the Vale of Glamorgan Hotel and Spa Resort, Hensol on April 12.

"I am also hopeful that some of these schemes will go forward to the Building Excellence award national finals, which will be held in London in 2019. The awards have shown the quality of work that is being undertaken throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and we are proud to be rewarding quality in the construction industry."

"Our thanks must also go to the sponsors, who have enabled the event

to be firmly placed in the annual diary - Nina Estate Agents, The Glamorgan GEM, The Vale Resort, Vale Consultancy, ACD Skip and Recycling, Ivorfir and Jesons, along with Cramar."

The evening also raised £670 on the night for the Mayor's charities and the NSPCC. The award winners who will go forward to the south Wales event are:

Category Extensions and Alterations: Anthony Gibbons Design and Build for Archer Road, Penarth.

Best Change of Use or Conversion: Christopher Haines Design and Build Project Services for Gileston Manor.

Best Individual New Home: SJ Building and Property Maintenance for Secret Garden, Llanbetherby.

Best Large New Housing Development: Taylor Wimpey for Phase 1 Golwg Y Mor, Rhosneigr.

Best Partnership Project: C2J Architects for Various Projects.

Best Site Agent: Chris Jones of Taylor Wimpey.

Best Local Builder: Design and Build Construction Service LTD.

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The Council wish all of the above schemes good luck in progressing to the National Awards Finals.

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Man ordered to pay back £35,000 at POCA hearing

A MAN, who was found asleep in a car in Barry next to bundles of cash, has been ordered to pay back more than £35,000 he made from his criminal lifestyle.

Joseph Hilton, aged 23, of Manchester, was sentenced in July 2018, to 9 months imprisonment after pleading guilty to offering to supply a controlled drug of class B – cannabis and acquiring/use/possess criminal property.

Following his conviction, South Wales Police's financial investigators began proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) to recover any cash or assets gained as a result of his crimes.

At a POCA hearing in Cardiff Crown Court on January 29 Hilton was ordered to pay back £35,650.84 within three months or face nine months imprisonment.

The court previously heard, officers attended Hood Road, Barry, on April 1,

2018, in response to a report of a man slumped over in a car with the engine running. They found Hilton asleep in the driver's seat of a BMW one series.

While trying to wake the defendant, officers smelt alcohol and observed a large amount of cash on the passenger's seat.

They seized £5,000 in cash, a gold Rolex watch, an amount of cannabis along with £400 in cash which was found on Hilton.

In his police interview, Hilton claimed the £5,000 found on the seat was going to be used to buy a car in Manchester but he didn't have time to purchase the car before travelling down to Cardiff to watch a boxing match.

Evidence found on the defendant's phone showed videos of him handling large quantities of cash and flaunting expensive watches and designer clothing.

Detective Inspector Dean Taylor said: "Videos found on the defendant's phone showed him living an extravagant lifestyle

for a person who was unemployed. Our financial investigations are committed to investigating the financial affairs of criminals to determine the extent of their profits.

"The public can really help us by passing on any information about people who may be making a living off their criminal lifestyle. Generally, these people are clearly seen to spend more than their apparent disposable income.

"We are determined to deal with drug issues in our area, and will take robust action against anyone who attempts to distribute illegal drugs.

"I would like to thank the community for the information provided and would urge anyone with any information about drug dealing in our communities should have confidence to report it to us – call us on 101, or report it anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."



The Business Centre staff have had training sessions on using the new equipment. Pictured from left to right are head receptionist Lynne Sewell, centre manager Emma Mason and operations assistant Dale Booker.

St Athan fundraiser for children's cancer charity

A ST Athan woman is organising a fund-raising event in the village for The Little Princess Trust.

Eleana Skitinis, 19, who is studying theatrical hair and beauty at Barry College, explained: "The trust makes wigs for children and adults who have lost their hair due to cancer and other illnesses. They are provided free to those in need."

"It's a wonderful charity and I want to raise as much as I can for it."

As a result of treatment for cancer, most children suffer hair loss as a side effect. Some cope very well but for others it's upsetting and improving their appearance by providing a wig



Eleana Skitinis.

can be a real boost.

Miss Skitinis's event takes place at St Athan Community Centre on Saturday, April 27, from 2pm until 4pm.

In line with the charity's name, there is a princess and prince theme to the fundraiser too.

THE FUW's in our rural communities annual Farmhouse Breakfast Week raised more than just awareness of the great food farmers produce all year round.

During the week (January 21-27), more than 27 breakfast functions were held across Wales, which raised nearly £15,000 for the FUW president's charity appeal.

Glyn Roberts, FUW president, said: "Our staff, members and wonderful volunteers have done an incredible job once again this year. The money raised will go to our charitable causes, Alzheimer's Society Cymru and The Farming Community Network, and brings the current fund up to almost £35,000!"

"Farming communities are close-knit communities and this shows what can be achieved when we all come together, with a common goal. Through these events, where we all sat around the kitchen table to talk and share our thoughts about #FarmingMatters, we've strengthened ongoing and permanent relationships and established new ones."

"The money we raised

pressing for a decision on the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the group is planning to monitor the quality of the air around the incinerator and docks area, along with the regulatory authorities.

"Barry & Vale FoE have written to Mark Drakeford AM, as the new First Minister, asking him to take action on the concerns he had expressed over the incinerator and the EIA."

The next meeting of Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth will be on Tuesday, February 5 at 7.30pm in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry.

Greggs to open on Barry Island

GREGGS will be opening a new branch on Barry Island in the next few weeks.

The high street bakery chain is taking over the unit that was once occupied by Coral Bay Café.

A company spokeswoman told The GEM: "We're excited to be opening a new shop on Barry Island this spring."

"Our new Paget Road shop which will feature indoor seating and offer customers a contemporary food-on-the-go experience."

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Defibrillator installed at The Business Centre

IN September 2018, The Business Centre in Barry hosted a fundraising event with Welsh Hearts to raise money to install a public access defibrillator.

A spokeswoman for The Business Centre said: "Welsh Hearts is a charity and requires a minimum donation of £995 to be raised to be able to install a defibrillator.

"In addition to installing the

defibrillator, Welsh Hearts also provide CPR and defibrillator training, led by an experienced first responder.

"Due to the generosity of The Business Centre's business community, £1,134.96 was raised for Welsh Hearts."

The defibrillator has been installed at The Business Centre, on Cardiff Road, Barry and is available to the public during the opening hours 8.30am to 5.30pm.

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Local plant cements its bond with new Barry Brownie pack

A GENEROUS donation from Tarmac's Aberthaw plant has enabled the establishment of a new Brownie group for young girls in the area who want to become part of the Girl Guiding movement.

The 1st Barry Brownie group was set up towards the end of last year when Kindre Morgan and Kelly Ellis moved to the area and it soon became apparent there were long waiting lists at other local Brownie groups. With more than 10 years of experience in running units in other areas in Wales, Kindre and Kelly worked to set up the new group.

With little funding to start the group, Kindre sought the help of local cement plant, Tarmac in Aberthaw.

Kindre said: "With such long waiting lists in other units, we decided

to set up our own group. Recent changes to the Girl Guiding programme meant that we needed to invest heavily in new resources and this is where Tarmac's help and support has been paramount."

The donation has meant the group has been able to purchase essential resources such as a flag, a series of 'skill builders', first aid books, song books and CDs.

Kara Bennett, Tarmac Aberthaw's environmental co-ordinator, said: "We are committed to supporting groups and are thrilled that our donation has enabled the 1st Barry Brownies to get quickly established. We hope that the donation will bring a lot of happiness to young members for many years to come."

The 1st Barry Brownies meet each Thursday at the Guiding Hall in Romilly Road, Barry.



Charity luncheon at Woody's Lodge

ON Wednesday, February 6, as part of its support for partners and families of veterans and emergency service leavers, Woody's Lodge will be hosting its first lunch dedicated to partners, carers and children. The lunch will be between 11am and 1pm at Woody's Lodge in Amelia Trust Farm.

SM

Contact Sian Woodland at Woody's Lodge for more information on 01446 781792, Sian@woodyslodge.org, or www.woodyslodge.org.

Amelia Trust Farm.

It will be an opportunity to meet the expert team at Woody's Lodge, to have a bite to eat and a hot drink and to spend some time with those in similar situations, have a chat and share stories.

The scheme is part of the wider North Penarth Open Space Improvement Scheme, which is being funded by the section 106 contributions from the developer of Penarth Heights.

A series of workshops will be held for local residents and the local skating community to inform the design of the skatepark.

SM

**CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
ADRAN 123 (2A) – DEDDF LLYWODRAETH
LEOL 1972 (FEL Y'I DIWYGIWYD)
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AGORED
DWY LAIN O DIR YNG NGHEFN 42 A 44
FONMON ROAD, Y RHWS**

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn cynnig cael gwared â 2 lain o dir yng nghefn 42 a 44 Fonmon Road, y Rhws sy'n cynnwys man agored cyhoeddus.

Mae cynllun sy'n nodi'r tir y cynigir cael gwared arno ar gael i'w archwilio yng nghyntedd swyddfeidd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeidd Dinesig, Heol Holttwn, Y Barri yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Rhaid cyflwyno gwrthwynebiadau i'r bwrriad i gael gwared â'r tir yn ysgrifenedig, gan nodi sail y gwrthwynebiad, a'i gyfeirio at y Swyddog Monitro/Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfreithiol (gan ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod C06-3309) yn y cyfeiriad a nodir isod erbyn 5pm ddydd iau 21 Chwefror 2019.

Gyda golwg ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad i Wybodaeth) 1985 rhoddir gwybod i bersonau sy'n gwrthwynebu'r cynnig fod y Cyngor hwn yn gorfod gweud unrhyw sylwadau a dderbyn mewn ymateb i'r cynnig ar gael i'r cyhoedd edrych arnynt.

Dyddiedig hyn 31 diwrnod Ionawr 2019

D. Marles

Swyddog Monitro/Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfreithiol
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeidd Dinesig, VALE OF GLAMORGAN
Heol Holttwn, Y Barri, CF63 4RU



**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
SECTION 123 (2A) - LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED)
NOTICE OF DISPOSAL OF OPEN SPACE
TWO PLOTS OF LAND AT REAR OF 42 & 44
FONMON ROAD, RHOOSE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council propose to dispose of 2 plots of land to the rear of 42 & 44 Fonmon Road, Rhoose comprising public open space.

A plan identifying the land proposed to be disposed of is available for inspection in the foyer of the offices of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry during normal office hours.

Objections to the intended disposal must be made in writing, stating the grounds for such objections, and addressed to Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal & Democratic Services (quoting reference C06-3309) at the address stated below by no later than 5pm on Thursday 21st February 2019.

Persons objecting to the proposal are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposal open to public inspection.

Dated this 31 day of January 2019

D. Marles

Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices
Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU



Local children take to the stage with the African Children's Choir

PUPILS from 17 south Wales schools supported the African Children's Choir (ACC) in a charity concert in Cardiff on January 17.

The concert, with a capacity audience of 1,500, was held at St David's Hall raised money for Music for Life, the fundraising charity of the ACC. Music for Life works in seven African countries and has educated over 52,000 children.

The concert was part of the choir's 'Just as I Am' UK tour and provided memories that our children will treasure for many years to come."

'Boat in a box' refugee rescuer returns to Vale

JANE HUTT AM met with Robin Jenkins recently to hear about his work with refugees and his recent experience working with a humanitarian group in December aboard the Dutch vessel *Sea-Watch 3*.

Mr Jenkins, originally from the Vale and an alumnus of Atlantic College, has been working with lifeboats since his time at the College where the rigid-hulled inflatable lifeboat was invented.

Mr Jenkins runs Atlantic Pacific, an NGO that evolved from a visit to Japan in 2014 to visit to Japan following the earthquake and tsunami of March 2011.

Atlantic College designed and built a small easy-to-use rigid-hulled inflatable lifeboat*. A 40ft shipping container was then outfitted to hold both lifeboat and a mobile lifeboat station containing a workshop for fixing the lifeboat and a changing facility for

*As reported before in The GEM, Rear Admiral Desmond Hoare, in 1962 and recently retired from the Royal Navy, was the first headmaster of Atlantic College. With the help of students, he designed and built the rigid inflatable boat (RIB), patenting the design in 1973. He sold the rights to the design to the RNLI for £1. He was paid by cheque, and did not cash the cheque.

Support group AGM

AT the AGM of the Parkinson's Vale of Glamorgan support group held recently, in addition to the formal business, members enjoyed an excellent buffet after which co-ordinator Helen Blessly passed the baton of leadership to Dave Escott.

The group provides a forum for people with Parkinson's to swap experiences and provide each other with support, catch up on the latest research into the

condition and take part in social activities, such as meals and visits.

Anyone with Parkinson's in the Vale (as well as their partner, carer or friend) is welcome to come along to the group, which normally meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm in the Murchfield Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys CF64 4QO.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Dave on 029 2059 5315 or email pollyjune6@btinternet.com.

Come and join the YAB

GROUNDWORK is recruiting young people from across the UK to join the Groundwork Youth Advisory Board (YAB) to, said a spokesperson, "...help shape the charity's vision at a national level by representing the voice of young people".

The YAB will consist of 20 young people aged 16-24 who have passion, commitment and are willing to be an active voice and share their views to help the charity shape campaigns and youth work. From February - November 2019, YAB members will play a role in shaping future campaigns in both ideas and in practice, with the opportunity to develop leadership potential, have fun, and make friends and motivate their peers by leading by example.

Project management, blogging and social media and leadership opportunities will be a major part of the YAB role, and Groundwork



will be providing support, resources, and encouragement needed to ensure the success of the programme.

Successful YAB members will build upon the successes of the last two years, following the first Groundwork 'Youth Summit', where 60 young people from all parts of the UK came together to get the Groundwork Youth conversation going.

YAB members were all also involved with the youth-led 'Inclusive Spaces' campaign

that ran in the summer of 2018 that brought young people together with community groups across the UK to collaborate on local events, raise the profile of local parks and green spaces and encourage intergenerational community action.

The recruitment links in with Groundwork's long-term commitment to ensure young people are an integral part of the charity, with the recent decision to have representation in the governance structure of the organisation at board level wider than the Youth Advisory Board remit.

The deadline for applications is Friday, February 8. To find out more and to apply visit: www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/youthhub/pages/join-our-youth-advisory-board. As an organisation focused

HOUSE prices in Wales have reached an all-time peak, with the average house price across the country now £186,699.

The figures have been released today from Principality Building Society's Wales House Price Index for October to December 2018, which shows the rise and fall of house prices in each of the 22 local authorities.

The new peak in Wales recorded in December is £2,000 higher than the previous highest average in September 2018. Price growth in the fourth quarter of 2018 slowed down to just 0.3 per cent compared with the previous quarter at 3.6 per cent, but the number of house sales in 2018 compared to 2017 remain broadly the same at just over 48,000.

Six local authority areas had annual price increases of 6 per cent or higher. These were Torfaen (8.7 per cent), Caerphilly (7.5 per cent), Blaenau Gwent (7.2 per cent), Newport (6.5 per cent), Monmouthshire (6.1 per cent) and the Vale of Glamorgan (6.0 per cent).

With the exception of the Vale these areas are all located in the south-east corner of Wales, indicating that these local authorities are still reaping the benefits of the removal of the Severn Bridge tolls with an increase in commuting to Bristol, where the average house price is £325,000.

Tom Denman, chief financial officer at Principality Building Society said: "There are a number of possible reasons why Welsh house prices are at an all-time high - interest rates are currently close to their historic low, the number of people in work is near an all-time high while average weekly earnings have risen above the rate of inflation. Welsh Government housing schemes have also helped would-be property owners on to, and up, the housing ladder.

"We know from a recent survey that a quarter of people in Wales admit Brexit is affecting whether they buy or sell a home. Brexit has undoubtedly

affected the market but so far hasn't dampened the market in Wales as much as England, with the number of property sales estimated to be on a par with last year. Affordability of homes in the country compared to areas of south-west England is

likely to have helped growth, along with supply and demand."

The three local authority areas that have seen average house prices fall over the last year are Pembrokeshire (-1.4 per cent), Denbighshire (-1.9 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot (-2.4 per cent).

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ST ATHAN



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Athletic seconds in low-scoring loss, inexperienced youth team are beaten

BRIDGEND Athletic second XV visited Rhiwbina for a WRU Conference fixture with circumstances limiting the Green & Golds to the bare 15 players.

In very testing conditions from the first whistle, it was a very physical encounter between the two teams.

Rhiwbina, with a strong forward pack, used multiple carries to try and break the Ath defence but Cameron Thomas, Aled Pillitteri and Liam Griffiths showed great defensive resolve to nullify the attacks.

The conditions helped play into the Athletic hands with Rhiwbina making numerous handling errors.

Scott Jones had the Athletic's first opportunity to put points on the board from the 10 metre line, but a super strike fell just short.

Some further excellent carries from Lloyd Pemberton, Luke Yardley and Harry Griffiths put the Athletic on the front foot. Ryan Pickford was particularly evasive and found himself in close support from Josh Seldon and Stuart Robson, who made a good run down the left wing only to be pulled back for an accidental offside.

This led to a rare halftime score line of 0-0.

Both teams battled the conditions of heavy rain and a bitter cold wind resulted in a slow start to the second half, much like the first, with both teams juggling possession up and down the field.

The Athletic found themselves having another chance at goal, and with no hesitation Jones broke the deadlock 3-0.

Rhiwbina, exhausting their full complement of replacements, didn't break the Athletics commitment from the 15 players having to play the full 80 minutes.

Callum Swinford, Andrew Brown and

Nick Jones again putting the Athletic in key positions, only to be stopped short by the Black and Whites tough defence. Unfortunately, the Athletic suffered a blow losing Harry Griffiths to a nasty ankle injury.

Special mention should go to Alex Borely, who of late has been improving each week, getting himself fully involved in the gritty encounters at Caerdydd Park.

Athletic man of the match went to Geraint Lang for a brilliant all-round display and tremendous tackle count.

The Green and Golds battled to the last minute where the 80th seemed to continue for an age.

Tired legs and battered bodies saw a lapse in defence with Rhiwbina crossing for the winner from the final play, 5-3. A very tough loss for the Athletic to take with a game that they could easily have won.

Bryncethin Youth 14, Bridgend Athletic Youth 3

IN very demanding conditions of driving rain and a slippery surface, a young Bridgend Athletic team with four under-16 players, battled bravely against a more experienced, well-drilled Bryncethin side before succumbing to a 14-3 away defeat in the first fixture of the new Ospreys Youth B League.

It was evident from the start that Bryncethin only intended to play nine-man rugby with the much bigger Bryncethin forwards constantly picking and driving into the Ath defence.

However, some strong Ath defence held out for the opening 20 minutes, even making some strong breaks into the Bryncethin half by makeshift centre partnership of Ben Owens and under-16 player Calum Reed.

Eventually the Bryncethin pack got the better of the Ath defence and crashed over for a close range try converted to make it

7-0. The Ath bounced back with probing carries by Brandyn Fookes and Mike Gillette. This took play into the Bryncethin 22 where pressure paid off with the home team conceding a penalty which Cameron Lewis put straight through the middle of the sticks to take the score to 7-3 at half-time.

Soon after the restart the Ath regathered the ball and a kick and chase from over halfway saw Ben Owen almost touching down for what would have been a great try.

For much of the second half, it was the same story with Bryncethin using their forwards and the Ath trying to utilise a much fitter and confident back line to break down the home side's defence.

Some good turnovers by Jack Obbard and strong running from no 8 Mike Gillett (another under-16 player) allowed the Ath to put the home side under lots of pressure, but due to conditions just fell short of scoring.

However, with 10 minutes remaining and the score still 7-3, Bryncethin got a penalty and kicked to the corner.

From the resulting lineout, Bryncethin again stuck to pick and drive game which eventually paid off with another try which again was well converted in dreadful conditions.

All the Athletic coaches – Chris Thomas, Jon Davies and Paul Yardley – were pleased with a superb effort by all, especially with their young side up against a much more experienced Bryncethin team.

Youth coaches Thomas and Davies, who also coach the under-16s, commented: "Great credit to all who turned up on the day, including the under-16s boys. The future is positive with lots more under-16s ready to support this youth team and there are many positives to work on in training."

AB

Bridgend Athletic mini and junior news

THE under-7s arrived at St Albans with a total of 18 players. No scores were kept although the Ath comfortably outscoring their opponents.

There was great effort by all 18 players: Callum Brown, Xavier Gardner, Ollie Dowson, Isaac Rees, Osian Phillips, Matthew Hallez, Jesse Sargent, George Evans, Charlie Tunc, Tyler Pascoe, Rohan Davies, Adam Landells, Jacob Martin, Matthew Fyfe, Matthew Willcox, Harrison O'Brien, including Sam Francis and Harry Tomkins who both made their debuts.

The under-8s took on St Albans.

With their squad of 18 players, significantly outnumbering their hosts who could only muster nine, the Ath fielded two teams, each taking their turn to play.

All facets of the Ath's play was impressive and the team were complimented by the St Albans coaching staff. St Albans, despite putting in an enthusiastic and spirited performance, struggled to compete with two very polished performances from the Ath boys.

Bridgend ran out comfortable winners on the day, winning both matches and clocking up 19 tries and 50 tags for their efforts. **The under-9s travelled to Cardiff for a round-robin against St Albans and Tonypandy.**

The Ath fielded two teams and played two games each, outscoring Tonypandy 65-45 over two games and outscoring St Albans 40-35 over two games.

Try scorers were Ethan Davies (5), Rory Whyte (3), Harry Clark (3), Dylan Jones (2), Reuben O'Brien (2), Rhys Cawley (2), Grayson Lewis Whelan, Osian Kenny, Max Edwards and Regan Henly.

Stand-out performers in defence were Ethan Davies, Rory Whyte, Dylan Jones, Osian Lord, Grayson Whelan, Mason Brown, Regan Henly and Osian Kenny.

The under-10s travelled to St Albans with a squad of 14 players, so it was decided to play 12-a-side.

The Ath started strongly and Theo scored two impressive solo tries within the first 10 minutes. Ollie touched down for the Ath's third try, while the fourth came from another turnover, allowing Jack to break through the defence, making the score 4-1.

In the second period, Rhys and Charley crossed the line to score, while the third period started with another strong run from Charley resulting in a try. Jackson completed the Ath's scoring but the home side scored three late tries leaving the final score Ath 8, St Albans 4.

The under-11s also travelled to St Albans with a full team and two replacements.

St Albans had requested to play three 20-minute periods which was great for us. The game started well for the Ath who quickly raced to an early 15-0 lead. The rest of the half was dominated by the Ath, and the second half was much the same.

At the end of the second period the score was 70-10 to the Ath, and unfortunately, there was no third period played.

The under-12s travelled to Llantwit Major with just 15 players, with many playing out of position.

Despite the freezing cold conditions, strong wind, rain and hail, the Ath boys approached the match with a steely determination to turn recent strong performances into a positive result.

The match started slowly but the Ath opened the scoring through Luke Grant and this opened the floodgates for the Ath as flanker Will Jones cruised through for the Ath's second try of the match.

The Ath dominated the first half and outside half Jack Thomas and James Waite added to the Ath's try count while Will Jones grabbed his second try of the match. Llantwit Major came out firing at the

start of the second half, with their number 8 crashing through straight from the kick off to score under the posts. The Ath hit back immediately with a great backs move creating space for Lucas Kenny to score the Ath's sixth try of the match.

Llantwit responded, but James Waite then surged over for his second try of the match. This was closely followed by a great backs try from Ioan Hammond, and Ethan Deere then scored the ninth and final try of the match for a final score of Llantwit Major 10, Ath 49.

The under-13s travelled away to Tondu for their first ever cup game.

It wasn't long before Tondu were on the board with a converted try, and another try, which went unconverted, gave them a 12-0 lead at half-time.

The second half, started off in the same vein, and Tondu scored a third try, which was also unconverted, to run out 17-0 winners. We wish them well in the next round of the cup.

The under-15s travelled to Morriston, and Sam Baraclough and Shea Duggan from the under-14s joined the squad.

Ethan Mawer crossed the try line to open the scoring for the Ath, followed by Jacob Perkins and then more tries from Sam Baraclough, Will Fyfe and another by Ethan Mawer, with three converted by Evan Beach. Morriston replied with two penalty kicks for a half-time score of 6-31.

In the second half the Ath were relentless and the tries kept coming through Shea Duggan and Ethan Scourfield, with Sam Baraclough and Jacob Perkins getting their brace. The final score was Morriston 5, Ath 53.

AB

Phoenix push Llandaff North all the way



Laura Keeble in action. ALL PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK.



Emily Hughes makes a break.

PENCOED Phoenix took the lead in the opening minute of this game against Llandaff North ladies, scrum half Laura Keeble racing clear from a scrum around half way to score at the posts and Leanne Burnell adding the conversion.

The early scrums saw the home pack dominant and the visitors were driven off their own ball before Phoenix centre Natalie O'Shea capitalized to race 40 metres, and only a superb tackle from the Llandaff North full back kept her out.

With the considerable breeze at their backs the home side were having the better of things territorially, however it was the visitors who were next on the scoreboard, counter-attacking through their dangerous backs.

Initially only a superb cover tackle from outside half Burnell prevented a certain score, but swift use of the ensuing possession saw Lora Roberts race over wide out. The visitors returned to the attack and following a quick tap penalty in the home 22 centre Fione Evans gave her side the lead at 7-10.

Phoenix soon hit back, once again through the considerable efforts of their pack, driving the Llandaff North eight back over their own line for No8 Amy Stevens to get the touchdown.

Phoenix went in at the break leading by 12 points to 10 but the prospect of facing the elements did not bode well with only a two point cushion.

Despite this the home side

dominated the opening 10 minutes of the half, camped on the visitors' try line and adjudged to have been held up over the line on a number of occasions.

The defensive resolve of the experienced Premiership side during this period came to the fore with Phoenix coming away pointless, and this was eventually to win them the match.

The visitors then got their third try, once again a quick tap penalty the undoing of the home side and Becky Newton crossed with Claudia Meyrick adding the conversion.

Injuries were now beginning to take their toll on the Phoenix performance with the loss of the influential O'Shea and Emily Hughes simultaneously, and the visitors went on to gain their bonus point try from captain Nia Jones for a hard earned 12-22 victory.

Llandaff North chose Laura Keeble as their Phoenix player of the match, a first for the young scrum half, and Phoenix picked out No12 Ceri Edwards as the best Llandaff North player.

Phoenix can feel a little unlucky to have come away with no match points having dominated possession for long periods through their now formidable pack. However, they have clearly shown they can compete at this Premiership level.

The club were delighted with the news that no less than 12 of the Phoenix under-18 girls squad have been selected for the Ospreys.

TR

Former Phoenix players' international call-up!

FORMER Pencoed Phoenix players Mel Clay and Robyn Wilkins have both been selected to represent Wales in the forthcoming Six Nations.

Pencoed RFC wish both players and the Welsh squad the very best of luck for the tournament.



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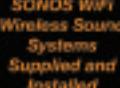
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Family Notices

THOMAS
David Hywel J.P.

Peacefully at his home in Ystradwen, Cowbridge on 17th January 2019, aged 71 years. Hywel the beloved husband to Annelie, loving father to Simon and Louise and father-in-law to Ian. A cherished Grampsy to Robyn, Zara and Erin and dear brother to Wynne and sister-in-law Vivien.

Hywel will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral service to take place at Coychbury Crematorium on Friday 8th February 2019 at 11.30am. Dress as you wish, black attire is not essential.

Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, can be made in Hywel's memory to any of the cancer charities.

All enquiries to Port Talbot & Margam Funeralcare, 50 Margam Road, Margam, Port Talbot, SA13 2BN. Tel 01639 883688.

NOBLE
Annie Catherine (Kitty)

Passed away peacefully 22nd January 2019 at Springbank Nursing Home, with her children at her side. Kitty is survived by her children Mary, David, Thomas and Anne, her sons and daughters-in-law Arthur, Janet, June and Steve, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who will be sadly missed. Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Tuesday, 5th February at 2pm.

Family flowers only donations can be made in memory of Kitty in favour of The R.A.F Benevolent Fund at the service.

JOHN
Christopher David (Chris)

Chris passed away peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend with Samantha and Stephen holding his hands on Thursday, 24th January 2019, aged 69. Loving husband of Lynne, devoted father of Samantha and Stephen. Father-in-law to Barrie and Kath, a remarkable and cherished gramps to Daniel, Emily & Molly. A brother and friend.

Funeral service on Monday, 4th February 2019 at All Saints Church, Porthcawl at 11.15am, followed by a strictly private family cremation.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Headfirst Velindre Brain Tumour Charity or Porthcawl First Responders.

All further enquiries to Riverside Funeral Services, 273 New Road, Porthcawl, CF36 5BG.

SKINNER
Jean Nixon

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital on Sunday, 20th January 2019. Jean of Llandow devoted wife of Len, Loving mother of Andrew, David, Richard and Gail. Caring mother-in-law, loving and proud nanne to her seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren, a dear sister and aunt.

Funeral service on Wednesday, 6th February 2019 in Holy Trinity Church, Llandow at 9.30am, followed by committal at Coychbury Crematorium at 11am. Donations in lieu of flower may be given during the service at Holy Trinity or sent direct to Age UK, Tavis House, 1-6 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9NA.

All further enquiries to Rosemount Funeralcare, 19 Coychbury Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Tel:- 01656 653156.

WHITE
Ronald George (Ron)

Peacefully at home on 24th January 2019, Ronald 1st Battalion Welch Regiment (1956-1959), beloved husband of Margaret and much loved dad to Karen.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, Barry on Friday 8th February at 10am, followed by a committal service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

No flowers by request please. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie or Blesma Limbless Veterans.

UNDERHILL
Henry James (Harry)

Peacefully at Springbanks Nursing Home on 21st January, aged 94. Loved husband of the late Iris, much loved father of Sandra, Ann and the late Jeffrey and Kathryn. Father-in-law to John and Malcolm, grandfather of Helen, Kevin, Lloyd and Alex. Much missed great grandfather of Caitlin, Joe and Evan.

Harry is resting at James Summers Funeralcare, Lavernock Court, Lavernock Road, Penarth, CF64 5UP, until his funeral service on Tuesday, 5th February, 12 noon at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, CF62 9PX. Family flowers only. Donations in memory of Harry can be made to a charity of your choice.

BLOTT (Snr)
David Leonard

(of Ogmore-by-Sea)

Peacefully surrounded by his family on 20th January 2019. David, aged 77, will be sorely missed by friends and family, especially his wife Margaret, son David and daughter-in-law Nikki. The funeral service will be held on the 7th February at St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major at 12 noon, followed by interment.

Sprays of flowers welcome and may be sent to J.R. & M.F. David Funeral Home, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

ELLIOTT
Margaret Rose

Peacefully on the 18th January, Margaret passed away at the Princess of Wales Hospital. Beloved wife to Sid, loving mother to Janet and son-in-law Frank. Grandmother to Sharon and Iain, great grandmother to Bradley and Charlotte and great, great grandson Leo.

She will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting at W. A. Brown Funeralcare, Llanwit Major until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Wednesday, 6th February 2019 at 11am.

Family flowers only. Donations in Margaret's memory welcomed to the Alzheimer's Society, 43-44 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE.

CRIDGE
Hilary Anne

It is with great sadness that the family of Hilary announces her passing after a long battle with Cancer, on Saturday, 19th January 2019, at the age of 76 years. Hilary will be lovingly remembered by her two sons, Johnathan and Mathew Cridge, partner Phil Dowdall and brother Haydn Davies. Hilary will also be forever remembered by Johnathan and Mathew's partners Catherine and Jayne and by her numerous dear friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, 4th February, service and cremation 1pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 9PX.

Family Flowers only, but if you would like to make a donation in Hilary's memory please donate to the Dogs Trust.

HOBBS
Andrew John

Andrew passed away on Monday, 21st January at Llandough Hospital. Devoted husband of Annette, loving father of Derryn and Claire and grandfather of Olivia and Emily.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Wednesday, 6th February, service and cremation 2pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry. Family flowers only.

In Memory

In Loving Memory of
Pauline Sivyer

5th February 2017

Two years have passed since you were taken from us. Some say it gets easier with time, it doesn't to me; it gets harder.

Although I spend every day visiting your graveside, it can never be the same.

All my love, now and always.
Gordon XXX

In Memory

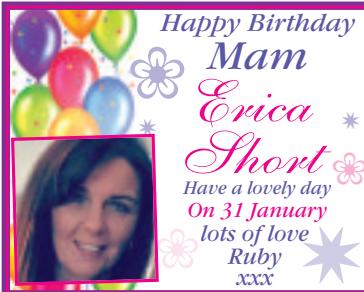
IN MEMORY**Bill Mackowiak**
07.02.1919

In memory of a loving dad, pops and grand pops on this, your 100th Birthday.

**Maud Mackowiak**
19.02.2018

In memory of a loved mum, nanny and great nanny Maud who passed away a year ago.

Always in our thoughts, always in our hearts x



Birthdays

Situations Vacant

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APPOINTMENT OF BARS MANAGER

Applications are invited from suitable persons to provide a bar service at the Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry.

Applicants will be expected to hold a current personal licence issued by the appropriate licensing authority. Further particulars and a copy of the proposed licence are available from the undersigned.

Applicants will be expected to view the premises and its facilities and arrangements for such viewing can be made.

Applications, together with the applicant's CV, must be sent to the undersigned by the 1st March 2019.

Derek Butler • Secretary
246 Gladstone Rd, Barry CF62 8NG



Trinity House is looking to appoint a Lighthouse Attendant for Nash Point Lighthouse.

This opportunity will also include operator services for the weddings and group tours held at the lighthouse.

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DIVISION 1: Weebies 314 (H Aspinall 35), Clickies 294 (A Butt 33).

Division 3:

Cigar Ladies 266 (L Webb 29), Pila Pala 256 (M Barnett 25); Bakers Dozen 274 (M Western 33), La Belles 263 (R Clegg 27); Family Affair 236 (S Wilson & J Waldon 23), Special Angels 242 (P Griddle 28); Fallen Angels 253 (P Mepham 27), Barry Stars 255 (D James & C Lambeth 24); Family & Friends 204 (L Sheppard 23), Space Finders 224 (H Webb 28); Sea View Gals 288 (T Warner 29), Cadoxton Con Fillies 274 (A Beattie 32).

Division 2:

Bobby's Girls 243 (L Evans 26), Colcot Ladies 255 (M Snelling 26); Breakaways 260 (C Parfitt 27), Rugby Tries 230 (K Brookes 28); Roller Coasters 206 (S Spry & L Gould 21), Rhoose Starlights 195 (T Cerian 24).

HB

Got a sports story, match report

or item of interest?

Then get in touch with us - email
sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Public Notice

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Paul Kelly Trading as Vanman Express of 5 Dennis Place, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9WP is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To add an operating centre to keep **2 pcd vehicles** and **0 trailers** at Unit B2, Ty Verlon Industrial Estate, Cardiff Road, Barry, CF63 2BE.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF. Stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.

Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at top of the top of this notice. A guide to making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioners office.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

SRCL Ltd Trading as Stericycle/SRCL Ltd of 177 Cross Street, Sale, Manchester, M33 7JQ, is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an **extra 5 trailers** at the operating centre at Aneurin Bevan Avenue, Brynmennyn Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF32 9SZ

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF. Stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.

Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at top of the top of this notice. A guide to making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioners office.

Sprinter Sam's double life - as Vale Council sports coordinator!



ABOVE: Sam at one of his sports sessions.

FOR Vale Council activities coordinator Sam Gordon, running sports sessions for schoolchildren isn't the most exhausting part of his day.

That's because the 24-year-old is one of UK Athletics' hottest prospects who spends most mornings training on the track.

Sam is a sprinter and currently Wales' fastest man, with a 100-metre personal best of 10.14 seconds.

Next month he will be competing in the British Championships in Birmingham before travelling to Glasgow for March's European Indoor Championships.

Fitted around that hectic schedule, the man hailed one of the country's rising stars organises after-school activities for pupils across the Vale.

"I'm an activities coordinator for the Vale Council, which means I go to schools around the Vale taking sports sessions," he said.

"It's not PE, where people have to get grades, this is fun and we can have a good time. That's what sport's about."

"Training-wise, I probably do 18 to 20 hours a week and am making steady progress."

"I keep the mindset that I don't want to be outworked so you could say I have the mentality of an underdog."

"I come into every session, every race, as the underdog knowing that I've put in the work of a champion. That sounds so cliché, but you've got to think like that or else you'll never

Wales are ready for 2019 Six Nations kick-off!



WITH the 2019 Six Nations kicking off tomorrow evening, we thought we'd take a look back at last year's autumn series, where Wales took four wins and played some wonderful rugby.

Here's hoping that continues tomorrow night (February 1) as they take on France - read Philip Irwin's post-match report in next week's GEM.

ALL PICTURES BY HUW EVANS AGENCY.



RHYBUD
Mae'r Cofrestru i'r Ffynhonnau, sy'n fodol nad yw'r gynllid bellach yn defnyddio'r safleol canlynol, a gofrestwyd ar eu han i wneini'r priastrau ynddo un uol a Adrián 12 y Ddeudaf Priastrau 1836, wedi dileu cofrefriad hwnnw. Carmel, Eglwys Ddwsgydd Uwddig, Treiswm. A Jones ar ran y Cofrefryd Cyffredinol. Mis Ionawr 2019

NOTICE
The Registrar General, being satisfied that the following building, on whose behalf it was registered for marriage in accordance with section 12 of the Marriage Act 1836, has cancelled the registration thereof: Carmel United Reformed Church, Bonwillow. A Jones for the Registrar General January 2019

RICHARD WELLESLEY MORGAN REES (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trusts Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Castle Cottage Llanbetherwy Barry Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3AN, who died on 10th January 2018, and all documents and particulars thereof in writing to the Undersigned Solicitors on or before 05/04/2019, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HONEST SORITORS
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TS40347

The GEM
01446 774484

Bridgend Sports mini and junior rugby round-up

THE under-8s ventured up to the Garw Valley where the Valley Ravens hosted a round-robin with Ystrad Rhondda, Porthcawl and the Ravens all involved.

All young players performed extremely well in the cold conditions, a fantastic team effort from all and the young players should feel very proud of themselves.

Rhydian Cronin was top try scorer with six tries. Top tagger was Archie Hall with 16 tags. The Sports try scorers were Rhydian Cronin (6), Matthew Griffiths (4), Charlie Hearing (2), Leo D'Adamo (2), Archie Hall (2), Mikey Heanue, Holly Eynon and Alex Bright.

The game scores were: Bridgend Sports 6, Valley Ravens 6; Bridgend Sports 8, Ystrad Rhondda 7; Bridgend

field.

The under-9s travelled to Aberavon where the Green Stars played host to no less than five teams with each game a straight 10 minutes.

The Sports played a solid hour of rugby and played as a team showing some great skills particularly with ball handling, finding space and well timed passing. There were many evenly matched games as the results show: Baglan 3, Sports 3; Aberavon 5, Sports 2; Cwmavon 3, Sports 3; Skewen 6, Sports 6; Taibach 2, Sports 2.

The Sports' try scorers were Dan Perriman, Max Hearing, Rafferty Williams, Sam Heycock and Thomas Roberts with Sam Heycock named player of the week and Ciaran Murphy tackler of the week.

The under-11s hosted their own round-robin on a sticky Bandstand

It was a physical game

played out in heavy conditions under foot. A good passage of play was rewarded with Ben Evans crashing over for the first try.

Dylan Harrison came close to adding a second but was held up, from the resultant scrum, but Ben Evans was able to cross for his second which was converted by Jack Sperduty for a 12-0 half-time lead.

The second half was a bit scrappier, but the Sports still had the edge on possession and territory. Gruff Roberts was able to crash over for the third try and Tyler added a fourth.

The Sports relaxed which allowed Nantcorwg in for a soft try, which gave the visitors a bit of confidence but Ben Evans killed the game off with his third of the day for the Sports to secure their place in the semi-final.

The under-13s led the way a little earlier as they also hosted their District D Ospreys Cup quarter final clash against Baglan.

Within minutes the Sports had registered the first score through Connor Jones. The Sports were then rewarded when they secured a

penalty inside the Baglan half and Ben King used his speed and strength to power in for a great score, and the conversion was added to extend the lead to 14-0.

The Sports scored three further tries by half through Ben King, Connor Jones and Cian John to extend the half-time lead to 33-0.

Baglan threw their all at the Sports in the second half but the Sports threw themselves at everything, putting in an incredible seventy nine tackles.

Such effort deserved reward and it came with tries from Efan Dyer and Connor Jones. Ieuan Pilliner added his sixth conversion from seven attempts for the Sports to lead 47-0.

Baglan kept battling to make a contest right until the final whistle. They were rewarded when Callum Milan pounced on a loose ball from a Sports lineout that drifted over the line to touch down and make the final score 47-5.

SP

On and Off the Turf with Brian Lee

A BERTHIN'S Legend partnered by Racing Club Novices' Tim Vaughan sent Keiron Woods.

Handicap Chase, eight-

just the one horse to Doncaster last Friday, January 25, and had to wait until the last race on the card the Sky Bet Extra Places Every Day Handicap Hurdle over three miles to see his

Modern Warfare get home by a length from KK Lexion. The top weighted Mahlermade, trained by Alan King and ridden by Wayne Hutchinson, was finishing in the runners-up spot for the third time in a row.

Cougar's Gold was ridden by Bowen's son Sean Bowen and was a 3-1 chance.

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan sent two horses on the 295 mile journey to Sedgfield at the weekend, but both found the handicap of carrying top weight a bit too much for them on the Sunday.

In the Brian Ellison

Brian Lee

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club news

THE latest results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for January 28 are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Kevin Maddox, 64.79 per cent; second, Phil Felman and Tony Disney, 63.41 per cent; third, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones, 62.92 per cent.

LE

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda Range: Combined 34.9 (8.1) - 55.4 (5.1)^\circ. CO₂ emissions (g/km) 160 - 111^\circ.

Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO₂ figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. ^There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO₂ figures. The CO₂ figures shown however, are based on the outgoing test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration.

Retail sales only, subject to availability for vehicles registered between 18.12.18 and 31.03.19 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *4.1% APR Mazda Personal Contract Purchase available on all new Mazda models. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarrantee may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 1SR. Models shown: 2019 Mazda CX-5 150ps 2WD Sport Nav+ Diesel, OTR from £29,895. Model shown features optional Soul Red Crystal Metallic paint (£800) and Mazda CX-3 121ps 2WD Sport Nav+, OTR from £21,695. Model shown features optional Ceramic Metallic paint (£550). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Victoria Park Motor Company Limited, trading as Victoria Park Mazda is a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

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15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Bluetooth, heated seats, red, full leather £19995
16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, choice of manual or s-tronic from £24495
16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr (306bhp), Audi warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 23k, white, half-leather £23995

15 65 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr S-Tronic, sat nav, dab, heated seats, 33k, grey, half-leather £20495
14 64 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr Tiptronic (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, bose sound system, 42k, grey, full leather £27995

16 66 BMW 220 D Luxury XDrive Gran Tourer Automatic (7-Seater), BMW warranty Dec 2019, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20k, blue, full leather £19995
16 66 BMW 335 D xDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M sport + pack, LED headlights, sat nav, 19"alloys, 20k, grey, full leather £22995
16 66 BMW 335 D xDrive M Sport Estate Automatic, BMW warranty Jan 2020, M sport + pack, Harman kardon, 19"alloys, sat nav, 22k, met grey, full leather £24995

16 66 BMW 335 D xDrive M Sport Estate, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pan roof, pro media - sat nav, heated seats, 20k, champagne quartz, full leather £26995
15 64 BMW 420 D xDrive M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, pro sat nav, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, full leather, 26k, met black £19995

15 65 BMW 420 D xDrive Luxury 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 39k, grey, full leather £17995
15 65 BMW 430 3.0 D M Sport XDrive Coupe Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, m sport plus pack, 31k, black, full leather £20995

15 65 BMW 435 D M Sport XDrive Coupe Automatic, M sport plus pack, head up display, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, grey, full leather £24995
15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D xDrive X-Line 5dr, sat nav plus, electric memory seats, 10k, black, full leather £19995

16 16 BMW X1 2.0 D xDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white £19995

16 66 BMW X1 D xDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, 21k, blue £20495

17 67 BMW X1 2.0 D xDrive Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, black, full leather £21495
16 66 BMW X3 3.0 D M Sport XDrive 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, advanced parking pack, 15k, white, full leather £26995

16 66 BMW X4 2.0 D xDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 19"alloys, 10k, white, full leather £25995
16 66 FORD EDGE 2.0 TDCi 210 Titanium 5dr Powershift 4WD, Ford warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, 19"alloys, reverse camera, black £21995

16 66 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr 4x4, Ford warranty Dec 2019, appearance pack, 19"alloys, blue, half-leather £13995
16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDi Premium 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, privacy glass, 18k, black, full leather £19995

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDi BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 21k, beige with full leather £20995

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDi BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 9k, full leather £23995
16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather £18995

17 67 JAGUAR F-PACE 3.0 D V6 S AWD 5dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, 9k, black, full leather £37995
15 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet II 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 38k, white, full leather £16995

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, black, full leather £22995
14 14 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Summit 5dr Automatic 4x4, pan roof, sat nav, white, 46k, full leather £20995

14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather £18495
16 16 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Summit 5dr 4x4 Automatic, Jeep warranty April 2019, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 20"alloys, met red, full leather £23995

16 16 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 M-Jet II Longitude 5dr 4WD, Jeep warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 17"alloys, blue, 22k £13495
16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 MultiJet LTD 5dr Automatic AWD, Jeep warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather £14495

15 65 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRD KX3 5dr Automatic AWD (7-Seater), Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, reverse camera, 21k, white, full leather £22995
18 68 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI GT-Line S 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Kia warranty Sept 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, only 527 miles, grey, full leather £33995

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDI GT-Line AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, 19"alloys, full leather, 20k, white £16795
16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 24k, black, full leather £18495

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr 4WD, Kia warranty Oct 2022, pan roof, reverse camera, 31k, black, full leather £13995
16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 23k, met red, full leather £18995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD GT-Line 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k choice with full leather £16495
16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD KX-2 5dr Automatic 4WD, KIA warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 24k, silver £16995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr AWD Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 24k, white, full leather £20995

15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 180 HSE Black 5dr Automatic 4x4 7-Seater, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 26k, orange, full leather £26995
15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 SD V6 SE Tech 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 30k, silver, full leather £20995

15 65 LAND ROVER RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE Dynamic 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 20k, red, full leather £26995
16 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE Tech 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 18"alloys, blue, full leather £21795

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER VOGUE 3.0 TDV6 Vogue 4dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty Sept 2019, pan roof, sat nav, grey, full leather £43995
17 17 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER VELAR 2.0 D 240 HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4, Land Rover warranty July 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, head up display, rear DVD, silver, full leather £45995

18 18 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.5 Cooper ALL4 5dr, Mini warranty April 2021, chilli pack, sat nav, heated seats, only 1903 miles, green £21995
13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D ALL4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, silver £9995

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 D Cooper Business Edition ALL4 5dr Automatic, sat nav, white £13495
14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Nismo 5dr 4WD CVT Automatic (197bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 18"alloys, white £10495

12 62 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, base, heated seats, black £9495
15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather £11995

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, Nissan warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, black, black £14495
15 65 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), sat nav, reverse camera, met green, full leather £15795

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI BlueMotionTech R 5dr 4WD (300bhp), VW warranty June 2019, xenons, cruise, 15k, choice £20995
16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG 4WD, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 21k, choice £22495

12 62 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI R-Line 5dr 4Motion, sat nav, 18"alloys, 28k, white £13995
15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT Tech Match 4Motion 5dr, sat nav, 17"alloys, white £13995

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT SE NAV 4Motion 5dr DSG Automatic, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, 5k, choice £23495
16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 220 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, Volvo warranty April 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, white, half-leather £20495

15 15 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 SE Lux 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, heated seats, 28k, choice, full leather £19995

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12 62 BMW 118 D Sport Plus Edition 2dr, heated seats, privacy glass, 55k, black, full leather

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15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full-oyster leather

£17295

16 66 BMW 320 i M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, heated seats, privacy glass, silver, full leather

£15495

17 67 BMW 330 2.0 E SE 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 18" alloys, 11k, privacy glass, choice

£18995

16 66 BMW 420 i Luxury Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, white, full leather

£20995

16 16 BMW 430i M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport plus pack, 19" alloys, Harman Kardon, wide screen sat nav, met grey, full leather

£21495

15 15 BMW 435 3.0 i M Sport Convertible Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, Harman Kardon, black, full leather

£22995

16 16 BMW 420 d 190 M Sport 2dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, heated seats, grey, full leather

£17495

17 67 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, M sport plus pack, sat nav, 19" alloys, blue, 14k, full leather

£23995

16 66 BMW 518 DSE Estate, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, black, full leather

£13495

15 15 BMW 520 DSE 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18" alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather

£12995

15 65 BMW 520 D 50 M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18" alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather

£13995

16 16 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty March 2019, 19" alloys, pro media, M sport + pack, grey, full leather

£15795

15 15 BMW 530 3.0 D M Sport Estate Automatic, M sport + pack, sat nav, 19" alloys, grey, full leather

£17995

14 14 BMW 640 DM Sport 2dr Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, head up display, 43k, carbon black, full ivory white leather

£20995

16 66 BMW 640 3.0 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2019, M sport + pack, sat nav, 20" alloys, privacy glass, choice, full leather, from

£25995

15 15 BMW M5 4.4 4dr DCT Automatic, sunroof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20" alloys, 34k, blue, full leather

£29995

16 66 CITROEN C1 1.0 VTi Feel 5dr, Citroen warranty Oct 2019, air-con, Bluetooth, aux, usb, dab, choice

£5495

17 67 CITROEN C3 1.2 Pure Flair 5dr, Citroen warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, reverse camera, 11k, silver

£9995

14 14 CITROEN DS3 1.6 E-HDI 115 Airream Sport 3dr, air-con, aux, cruise, 30k, white

£6995

16 66 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI Prestige 3dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, black

£8495

15 15 DS DS4 1.6 BlueHDI DStyle Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, pdc, aux, white, black

£7495

15 65 FIAT 500 0.9 TwinAir Vintage 57 3dr, Bluetooth, blue, full leather

£5995

12 62 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, alloys, 24k, blue

£4995

16 16 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop 3dr, CD, aux, usb, 16k, white

£5995

17 17 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, PDC, green

£6995

15 65 FIAT 500X 1.6 D MultiJet Cross 5dr, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, privacy glass, 31k, red

£8995

16 65 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 EcoBoost Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, aux, blue, half-leather

£8995

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty Nov 2019, air-con, 17" alloys, privacy glass, 11k, choice

£10495

17 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Zetec 5dr, Ford warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 7k, black

£9995

18 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost ST-Line 3dr (New Model), Ford warranty February 2021, sat nav, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, 8k, choice

£12995

15 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCi Zetec S Estate, sat nav, appearance pack, 29k, grey

£11495

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCi Titanium X Estate, Ford warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 17" alloys, 29k, black, half-leather

£12495

15 15 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCi Titanium X Navigation 5dr, reverse camera, heated seats, black, half-leather

£9295

15 65 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCi Titanium X Navigation 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, blue, full leather

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16 66 FORD KUGA 1.5 T EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 23k, white, half-leather

£17495

14 64 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium X Sport 5dr, sat nav, appearance pack, pan roof, reverse camera, white, full leather

£12495

15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, choice

£8495

14 64 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDI BlueDrive Active 5dr, Cruise, Bluetooth, PDC, black

£6495

17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue

£15995

15 65 JAGUAR XE 2.0 D 180 R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, dab, privacy glass, 25k, black, full leather

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14 64 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 CRD Limited 5dr, sat nav, dab, white, full leather

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14 64 KIA CARENS 1.7 CRDI 3 5dr (7-Seater), Kia warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, reverse camera, 33k, silver, full leather

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16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver

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16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 3 5dr New Model, Kia warranty May 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 18k, black, full leather

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16 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19" alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather

£18495

16 16 MAZDA 2 1.5 Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty June 2019, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 28k, red

£8995

15 15 MAZDA 3 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, heated seats, sat nav, 18" alloys, black, full leather

£9495

16 66 MAZDA 2 2.2 D Sport 4dr, Mazda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 19" alloys, 28k, white, full leather

£14995

16 66 MERCEDES AMG C63 4.0 Premium Estate Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, black, full leather

£34995

15 65 MERCEDES C300 2.2 H Sport Premium Estate Automatic, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 38k, blue, full leather

£17995

18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather

£26495

16 68 MERCEDES CLA200 Sport Estate, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, grey, half leather

£17995

16 18 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic (New Model), sat nav, cruise, heated seats, black, half-leather

£21495

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, chili pack, sat nav, orange, half-leather

£9995

16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 D 5dr, Mini warranty Oct 2019, privacy glass, Bluetooth, dab, 18" alloys in black, 6k, white

£12995

17 17 MINI COOPER 2.0 S 5dr (192bhp), Mini warranty June 2020, media pack XL, sat nav, chili pack, 8k, black

£16495

13 13 MINI CONVERTIBLE 1.6 2dr, 17" alloys, Air-Con, dab, pdc, 43k, black..

£7795

15 65 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 D 5dr, stop/start, Bluetooth, dab, silver

£9995

15 65 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Tekna 5dr (187bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather

£9795

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white

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17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T Acenta 5dr (New Model), Nissan warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, tech pack, 5k, red

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15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Tec + 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, cruise, choice

£11495

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr (130bhp), Nissan warranty March 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 33k, black

£12995

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr X-Tronic 7-Seater, Nissan warranty Oct 2019, pan roof, cruise, 23k, black

£16495

16 16 PEUGEOT 208 1.2 PureTech XS Line 3dr, cruise, Bluetooth, DAB, white

£6795

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black

£10995

14 64 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Medianav 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 23k, choice

£8495

15 65 RENAULT CLIO 0.9 TCE Dynamique S MediaNav 5dr, Renault warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, 23k, black

£7995

15 65 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI 90 Dynamique S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, cruise, aux, choice

£7995

16 66 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Energy S Dynamique Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, 19" alloys, cruise, 9k, silver

£14495

15 15 RENAULT TWINGO 1.0 Dynamique 5dr, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, 37k, white

£5295

15 65 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 Toca 3dr, sat nav, air-con, alloys, red

£5495

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, Seat warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 9k, choice from

£12995

16 16 SEAT LEON 2.0 TSI Cupra 3dr (290bhp), Seat warranty August 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 19" alloys, 15k, red, full leather

£16995

16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE-L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black

£11995

17 17 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI Laurin & Klement 5dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, full leather, silver

£18995

16 16 SMART FORFOUR 1.0 Prime Premium 5dr, warranty until April 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 15k, white, full leather

£7495

17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather

£1195

16 16 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI ecoFLEX Design 5dr, Bluetooth, cruise, 28k, silver

£8995

16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, choice

£8495

16 66 VW GOLF 1.0 TSI Match Bluemotion Edition 5dr, VW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, heated seats, Bluetooth, cruise, 10k, silver..

£13995

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, VW warranty June 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, choice

£15495

15 65 VW PASSAT 2.0 TDI SE Business 4dr, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 43k, grey

£11995

16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, choice

£11995

15 65 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDI 184 Bluemotion Tech R-Line 3dr DSG

£14995

16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 GT TDI BLUEMOTION TECHNOLOGY 3dr, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 16k, white

£15795

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT SE NAV 5dr, VW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, 18" alloys, aux, 9k, grey

£20995

15 15 VOLVO V40 1.6 D2 R-Design 5dr, cruise, heated seats, dab, Bluetooth, choice

£10495

16 66 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design Lux Nav 5dr Automatic, Volvo warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18" alloys, privacy glass, 23k, black, half-leather

£121995

15 65 KIA CARNET 1.7 CRDI 3 5dr (7-Seater), Kia warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, reverse camera, 33k, silver, full leather

£11995

16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver

£12995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI 1 5dr, KIA warranty Sept 2023, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 17k, black

£12295

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 2 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, cruise, white, half-leather

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16 66 KIA CARENS 1.7 CRDI 3 5dr (7-Seater), Kia warranty Oct 2021, pan



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64 FIAT 500S	In met grey, 48,000 miles, very nice example, £30 road tax	£5,695
10 BMW 118i	5-Dr In ice blue metallic, 59,000 miles, 2 owners, excellent value	£5,495
63 FIAT 500S	1.2 in midnight indigo, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax, Facelift Model ..	Reduced by £700 to £5,295
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New captain drives-in for senior section

STANDING on the first tee at 7am on the old course at St Andrews to kick off the Ryder Cup can surely be no more daunting a prospect than that faced by the new captain of St Mary's Golf Club's senior section as he prepared to tee off in the new captain's drive-in competition.

With a gallery of 27 of the section's members, all of whom had invested £1 to hazard a guess at the distance of the drive (proceeds to the captain's charity fund), new captain Dave Hughes

breathed a great sigh of relief when he saw his well-struck ball split the fairway.

At a distance of 155 yards, Roger Hatton got



with the exact winning guess.

The Stableford competition was played out in unpleasant, bitterly cold conditions with heavy going and occasional rain showers, which led the members to opt for a reduced course of 15 holes.

Scoring, nevertheless, was prolific with a number of net scores posted better than the nominal par of 30 points for 15 holes.

Pictured above is 2019 captain Dave Jones on the left, with outgoing captain Hugh Williams on the right

HOLTON Road senior football team clinched the Division One title at Bryn Y Don last Saturday in potentially record time with 15 wins from 15 matches.

They won the title against Cadoxton Barry, winning 5-0 with goals from Dan Morgan (2), Ben Graham, Billy Grattan and Linford Harris, but this could have been a different story had it not been for the brilliance of keeper Scott Adams keeping Cadoxton Barry at bay in the first part of the match.

Holton's coach, Jeff Howells, said: "This has been a great all-round team achievement – we've won games convincingly and we've won games in the last seconds which is a testament to

the character and spirit we have in this highly talented squad.

"I'd like to say a big thank you to the supporters who watch come rain or shine, especially the club's committee who have been with us all the way. We'd like to dedicate this title to our goalkeeper Scott Adams' wife Martine who is battling an extremely rare form of cancer in her spinal cord and brain.

"If you would like to contribute to Martine's cause, please visit her Facebook page or #Livinginthenow for more information."

Holton are still looking to add two more trophies to the cabinet this season including the SWFA Intermediate Cup, where they play Royal Oak FC from Aberdare on April 23 in the semi-final.

JH



School pupils heading for British finals!

FOUR pupils from Peterston

Super Ely Primary School –

Luca Phillips, Cobie Phillips,

Lola Heaven-Russell and Kitty

Moreno-Grey – recently repre-

sented their school at the Welsh

Floor and Vault and Milano

Team Championships, held at

Wales Sports National Centre.

They came first for Milano as a team and second in floor and vault. It means they go on to represent their school and Wales at the schools British finals in

Stoke on Trent in March.

It is a huge achievement!

The headteacher, Owen Turner, is very pleased and has always been very accommodating in allowing the children time off school for these competitions, allowing them to represent the school, saying it's a fantastic opportunity!

The four gymnasts had to do one floor routine each, the girls with music, two vaults and a group routine also to music.

Michelle Phillips

Resounding win and club clash for chess teams

THERE were two

matches for the Barry Chess Club this week featuring three of our teams.

In Division 3 the Quarks played relegation-haunted Bridgend C while our two Division 4 teams, the Stauntons and Gambits, played one another.

The Quarks suffered a late withdrawal from the team and Dave Parsons stepped up to fill the gap. Dave played on board 1 and along with Peter Watkins recorded draws.

Our other players, Ken Hannah, Mike O'Leary and Sam White all won their games to give the Quarks a resounding 4-1 victory.

The Quarks sit in seventh place, some eight points above the relegation spot. Although it is too early to be complacent it seems relegation is not an issue.

Elsewhere another game finished 4-1 with the Goshawks beating the Eagles. To me it appears the Gambits, Pentrych C and Goshawks will be

The next match for the Gambits is away to Pentrych C so that will go a good way to determining where we will finish at the end of the season.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly game.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

Phil Jones

Enjoy an open day with bowlers

PENARTH Bowling Club are offering a warm welcome to all age groups to come and join them on at an open day in their indoor stadium on Rectory Road, Penarth on Sunday, February 24, 10.30am–4.30pm.

An introduction to the game of bowls will be provided by qualified coaches and bowls will be provided by the club.

Flat soled shoes will be needed or participants can play in bare feet. The game of bowls is an excellent form of enjoyable exercise and can be both competitive or social. The club holds regular weekly league competition and also designated social roll ups.

To find out more, contact Clive on 02920 252684 or Neil/Jill on 02920 512406.

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?

Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgangem.co.uk

Seaview Lads battle fish and weather!

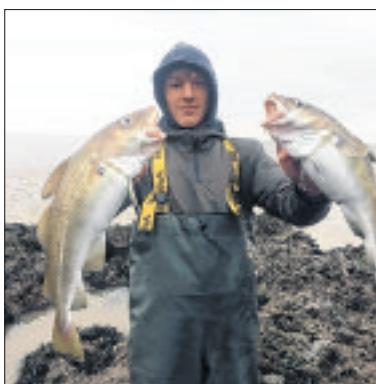
THE past month has seen an upturn in the number of fish and anglers with the second leg of the Seaview Lads' Christmas competition on December 16 keenly contested.

Once again, the weather was a challenge with onshore winds and heavy rain making it slippery underfoot. Most anglers caught fish, but no massive specimens.

Mike Langford included a sorry-looking cod in his winning weight of over 9lb; a fish that had it been in better health, would have easily weighed a few more pounds. He also won the Eddie Frost trophy.

Other fish of note included an eel for Kevin Sala that won him the snowball and another eel for Ada Harris that at over 3 feet long should have been a winning fish, but weighed under 2lb – a truly sorry looking specimen!

Building on his success from the previous week, Roger Green included two eels in his weight to make third place on the day and was crowned



champion over the two legs. A seasoned matchman, Roger dominated

proceedings and is surely the man to watch in the coming season. Mickey Langford, Kevin Sala and Steve Doble shared second place overall in the competition on equal points.

2019 has seen better fish being landed with more cod. On January 11, 11 anglers were booked, but only two weighed in. Ada Harris took first place and Don Cook had a fine bass of 3lb 7oz for second - not

anywhere close to his best (he holds the Welsh

record) but a welcome sight nonetheless.

The latest competition fished on January 20 had 16 anglers fish and most weighed in. Ollie landed 12lb 8oz of fish, including a fine cod of over 4lb to take first place while Ada Harris and Nathan Warner were in second and third.

New members are welcome to apply to join the Seaview Lads and novices and experienced anglers are welcome. They fish weekly along the local shoreline and also have a healthy boat fishing section. Members also enjoy a busy social calendar, including fishing breaks across the UK and further afield, from the Canaries to the Arctic Circle! It's great way to hone your skills, learn from old masters and enjoy some brilliant craic. To find out more, text Steve on 0787019331 for an informal chat.

Bridge results

THE latest results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Mia Deschepere, 63.44 per cent; second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones, 60.43 per cent; third, John Moore and Debbie Richards, 59.62 per cent.

LE

Record-breaking title achievement for Holton Road

HOLTON Road senior football team clinched the Division One title at Bryn Y Don last Saturday in potentially record time with 15 wins from 15 matches.

They won the title against Cadoxton Barry, winning 5-0 with goals from Dan Morgan (2), Ben Graham, Billy Grattan and Linford Harris, but this could have been a different story had it not been for the brilliance of keeper Scott Adams keeping Cadoxton Barry at bay in the first part of the match.

Holton's coach, Jeff Howells, said: "This has been a great all-round team achievement – we've won games convincingly and we've won games in the last seconds which is a testament to

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

IT was cold and wet afternoon in the Vale but it rained goals in the league!

Barry Athletic tightened their grip at the top of the Premier Division as they edged out Penarth Town 5-4 in a thrilling game of football.

Teejay Caton got a hat trick, Harry Carter and Andrew Colburn both got one each for the leaders, Caton completing his hat-trick in the 92nd minute!

Athletic now move seven points ahead of Rhoose having played a game more. Sully Sports' better run of recent form continued as a double from Kier McInerney helped them

secure an impressive 3-2 victory at Maslin Park against Island Marine, McInerney's first coming

HD

Barrivale Bridge Club news

HERE are the results for the Barrivale Charity Simultaneous Heat in aid of children of the Yemen on Tuesday, January 22:

First, Mike Close and Tim Barsby, 69 per cent; second, Irene Thomas and Denis Mottram, 64.29 per cent; third, Mark Roderick and Mick Green, 59.08 per cent.

The handicap winners were Irene and Denis. New members are welcomed at the club and a

partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join, call 01446 418380, 01446 733425, 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Alternatively, players

inexperienced or new

to bridge playing,

may attend the following

sessions:

Friday (10am,

doors open 9.45am)

at the Pioneer Hall or

Thursday for assisted

play from 1.30pm–4pm

at the Barry United

Church, Heol y Llongau,

Barry CF63 4AP.

LH



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Four wins from five for resurgent Athletic

IN-FORM

Bridgend Athletic made it four wins from the last five fixtures as they added Mountain Ash to Treorchy and Gilfach Goch for their third seasonal double, coming away from rain lashed Parc Dyffryn Pennar with a deserved 21-10 Division 1 East Central victory.

The resurgence from the Athletic is due to the pack coached by Athletic stalwart David Williams now getting to grips with the more physically demanding East Central league over last season's West Central.

With the rain sheeting horizontally and surface water on the pitch it was always going to be a game won up front.

From the start the Athletic were on top. Against a far heavier outfit, the front row – props Matthew Muir, Wayne Fooks and hooker Lee Murphy – had the drive on in the scrums.

Half backs Aled Thomas and Robert Evans forced numerous defensive errors with astute tactical kicks. Despite a lightweight pack, Williams has taught the Athletic a very commanding driving maul. From 25 metres, out the pack drove at the at the Mountain Ash try line.



Dan James, Ben Cording and Sean Williams battle for possession away at Mountain Ash - see more pictures by JOHN CANON at glamorgan-gem.co.uk/sport.

When a few metres short, Ash captain Jarrod Parfitt pulled down the maul and Premiership referee Gwyn Morris had no hesitation in awarding the Athletic a penalty try and despatching Parfitt to the touchline for 10 minutes.

Buoyed by this try, outside half Evans made a break from halfway. Centre Tom Davies ran strongly only to be held five metres short of a try, but Ash recovered to clear their lines.

Athletic captain Ben Howe then broke from halfway, chipped ahead and Dan James following up, caught the Ash full back in possession but fumbled the greasy ball when a try looked on. There was no more scoring in the half.

With Ash now having the elements on an ever more slippery surface, the Athletic supporters were anxious that a seven point lead would

be inadequate.

The Athletic pack soon dispelled those worries. Strong ball carrying by locks Jonathon Stoker and Ben Cording and breakdowns from back row forwards Sean Williams and Ben Davies forced Ash to concede penalties.

Evans put the Ath to within five metres of the Ash line from a penalty.

Hooker Murphy, whose throwing in was exemplary throughout to Ath lineout forwards Cording and Williams, picked out Cording.

The low driving maul policed by referee Morris ensured Ash could do nothing illegal as the momentum took Cording over the line to claim the try. Evans' conversion against the wind gave the Athletic a 14-0 advantage.

Unlike the Ash defence, young 18-year-old Athletic youth full back Levi Hallet had been exemplary under

the high ball all game.

It was a double blow for the Athletic in the 54th minute when Ash hit back with their own driving maul pushing the Athletic back resulting in a try for centre Alex Hughes and Hallett having to leave the field.

With no back substitutes, the Ath were forced to bring on prop Morgan Clemett in the back row with captain and flanker Howe moving to centre, Tom Davies to the wing and wing Dan James covering at 15.

With the Ath pack firmly in control, Ash were attempting to move the ball wide. The Ath backs, with new centre combination Tom Jenkins and Howe, and wing Owain Leyshon, completely nullified this tactic with resolute defence.

With 10 minutes remaining, Evans again put the Athletic close

to the Ash line from a penalty. Murphy this time found Williams and another driving maul saw Howe re-join the pack and claim his fifth try of the season – the Athletic's leading try scorer. Evans' conversion wrapped up the game for the Athletic.

Ash did reduce their deficit to 21-10 from their own driving maul finished off by prop James Cowdy, but the Athletic comfortably saw out the closing minutes for a tremendous battling victory.

It is hoped a sizeable crowd will turn out to support a resurgent Athletic side when, this coming Saturday (February 2), the Athletic host

Porth Harlequins at Newbridge Fields looking to reverse a narrow 20-18 away defeat from a highly-disputed late try last time around.

AB

Latest news from the Bridgend Bridge Club

BRIDGEND Bridge Club members Tony Haworth and Kevin Maddox were convincing winners in a 30 pair field in the West Wales Bridge Association pairs competition played last weekend.

The latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

On Wednesday, January 23: First, Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne; second, Liam Sheridan and John Beard; third Linda Pincock and Bill Turner. The winners on handicap were Geoff Tinkler and John Henson.

On Thursday, January 24: First, Geoff and Christine Tinkler; equal second, Gareth Jenkins and Mike Williams, and Marjorie Halle and Sheila Gass. The winners on handicap were Marjorie Halle and Sheila Gass.

On Friday, January 25: First,

Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner; second, Norma and David Newman; third, John Beard and Teresa Griffiths. The winners on handicap were Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start, it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

On Thursdays at 1pm, Steve Burgoyne will continue his series of seminars on the rules of bridge.

Porthcawl Bridge Club news

P O R T H C A W L Bridge Club recently held its Club Teams Championship for the Margaret Thomas Bowl, resulting in a close win for Pat, Gary, Keith and Tony.

Latest results from the club are: Saturday, January 12: First, Tony Haworth and John Beard; second, Trish Saunders and Terry Dolan.

Thursday, January 18, Club Championship Teams: First, Gary Williams, Pat Haworth, Keith Davison, and Tony Haworth; second, Connie Dick, Trish Saunders,

TH

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre on Thursdays, 6.45pm-9.45pm and Saturdays, 3.15pm-6.15pm; visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

Tondu youth kick off league campaign with impressive win



ABOVE: Morgan Hughes leads a break for Tondu youth against Gowerton – all pictures by JAMES KAYE.

TONDU faced Gowerton in the opening encounter of the Ospreys B League, with Tondu determined to win competition.

It was a terrible day to play rugby. Tondu started poorly from kick off, and there were multiple scrums and lineouts for both sides due to the horrendous conditions.

After five minutes of play, it was Tondu who crossed the line first. Ioan Billingham picked up from a scrum, carried hard before offloading to scrum half Morgan Williams to see him over in the corner to make it 5-0 to Tondu.

The Wheelers began to play with confidence and Tom Boobyer was the next player to get on the scoresheet after a lovely chip over the defence by Jacob Thomas, who converted to make it 12-0.

Continuing to attack, Tondu were camped on Gowerton's try line for a few minutes before Cael Chamberlain powered his way over to score, the first of two for Cael which was converted by Jacob Thomas.

The boys then scored

a fine try, with Ioan carrying from the scrum again, popping it inside to Nathan Bruce who gave it to scrum half Morgan Williams who burst through before offloading to Jacob Thomas.

Jacob was caught five metres out so threw a no-look pass over his shoulder which was caught by Nathan

and

Gowerton started to attack strongly but Tondu

was

too solid to let them

break

through the line.

The next try came from Morgan Evans, who, after hitting multiple rucks, decided to pick the ball up and drive his way over the line for his first try this season, converted by Dan Thomas to make it 45-0 to the Wheelers.

The last try of the game came from Cael Chamberlain as a good lineout was followed by a strong drive which saw him cross over for his second try of the game.

The game was finished early due to the score margin reaching 50, the final score 52-0 with Dan Thomas landing the last conversion.

Joe Allen

Titans looking for coach

TONDU Titans are looking for a forwards coach, someone with experience (male or female) qualified at level one or level two.

Ex-players are welcome to contact us, you must be able to commit to

Sunday home and away games every few weeks through the season and at least one training session a week.

Please get in touch with the club for more information via Tondu RFC on Facebook.

Mike Sully